INTERNATIONAL RESULTS AND TABLES

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The big kick-off in Japan

PLUS LINEKER INTERVIEW

How the Brazilian samba kids triumphed

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RANGERS

— are they too successful?

WADDLE doubles up!

SPOTLIGHT ON
BALBO
SAUZEE
JUNIOR
BOSNICH

MAY 1993 Vol.33 No.8

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GARY LINEKER interviewed by **KEN GOLDMAN** as the Japanese prepare for the new J-League.

KEN GOLDMAN: ***What do you feel about going to play in Japan?***
GARY LINEKER: I'm looking forward to it because it's a great challenge but it will certainly require a considerable re-adjustment for myself and my wife, particularly because of the food and the language. It will take time to get used to all of those things and to re-adjust to the new environment.

KG: ***You had to adjust when you went to play in Spain for Barcelona so you know about some aspects of going abroad.***
GL: I had a much better chance to learn the language before I went to Spain, and Spanish is not such a difficult language as Japanese. Owing to my son's illness I have not had as much time as I would have liked to learn Japanese. We had a few lessons and picked up a few words and phrases, and hopefully we can scrape by for a while. Certainly I think we'll pick it up quicker when we get there, as we did with Spanish, and we'll continue with our lessons.

THE BIG ADVENTURE

KG: ***What's the current situation regarding the popularity of football in Japan?***
GL: It's not so much popular as incredibly popular. When I went out there last summer there was quite a bit of interest but it was not spectacular. When I returned just before Christmas it was almost frightening how the game had taken off there. The whole thing had gone crazy. The difference as time has gone on is unbelievable and the marketing has been tremendous. When the Japanese get behind something they seem to do it with style. Every game being played there at the moment is a sell-out and I saw amazing scenes when I was over there from both the general public and the press. It's all extremely exciting. I have to undergo three months of pre-season training, which is probably the longest such period in the history of football. I'm sure that when it gets going the league will be very well run, and will improve all the time.

KG: ***You've been a lot more outspoken recently on some of the topics relating to the development of the game and how it is played in England.***
GL: I've tried to improve things where I can and I felt the only way I could achieve that was to go on about it where I can through the media: on my radio show and on TV. I've been constantly trying to push the idea that we play too much football in this country, despite the fact that some will argue that we have always done so. The game is much quicker now and seems to be getting quicker still. Injuries become unavoidable. It's a very physical game, and where we play two games a week on average throughout the season it's becoming a crazy situation. Until the club chairmen do something about it, we may find that the England international side cannot call upon their strongest team by a long way.

KG: ***You have always been a successful striker throughout your career. Do you prefer to work with a partner or to work alone?***
GL: It depends how the team play. If the team have two great wingers then it's quite good to work on your own. If the team have not got those you usually need someone else up there to take the weight off you. Striking partners work in different ways. I had partnerships with big fellows such as Alan Smith at Leicester and Graeme Sharp at Everton that worked particularly well. With England Peter Beardsley was my partner but he was totally different. He was smaller than me, and used to like to go really deep to collect the ball, but in turn that would leave space for me. There is no golden rule and you have to adjust your style according to how the manager wants to play and what system he adopts. You get to a stage when you have the experience to adapt to any game situation. Gary Lineker's style is not the important thing. The team's style is.

KG: ***During your playing career in England you were never cautioned, let alone sent off. Did that need a lot of self-control?***
GL: I have to agree that it did, but I tend to be a bit laid back and I'm not an excitable person whether things go really well or badly. My temperament helps but I'm not a "holier than thou" person. Being fairly unflappable helps a striker, where you have to keep your head in high-pressure situations. I do not argue too much anyway, but if I disagree with the referee's decision I tell him. As the comedian Frank Carson says, it's the way you tell them which counts.

KG: ***Does that mean the opposition get fed up trying to wind you up and don't bother?***
GL: Winding up does go on but not to lengths that it becomes the most important aspect of marking. Players have kicked me from time to time rather than try to wind me up. They have gone through the back of me when there was a 50-50 ball, but in the main I was not badly treated in my time in England.

KG: ***Is Japan the end of your playing road?***
GL: I'm not going to say definitely because I don't know how I will feel in two years, but at the end of my contract I'll take it from there. If things are going really well maybe I will sign an extension or even come back to England. I will be 34 when the contract is up and I would think there will not be too much beyond that, particularly not for a striker. I'm not one of those players who would be happy dropping deep or playing in any other position.

KG: ***Will you have the chance to coach youngsters in Japan?***
GL: I am no coach and do not profess to be one, even though I have made a video trying to teach some of the things I know about being a striker: keeping fit and trying to avoid injury. I'm there to play, and playing is a full-time occupation. I have always felt that in your spare time you have to look after yourself and make sure you are right for the game. Commercial interests never get in the way of my football. I expect the same will apply in Japan, although I would be willing to help out with the youngsters if it all fits together.

Heading the charge . . . Lineker will spearhead Grampus Eight when the J-League gets under way.

ON THE FAST TRACK TO 2002

FRANZ BECKENBAUER charts progress towards a World Cup in Asia

SNOW, rain and wind unjustly put the organisational talents of the Japanese in a poor light.

They cannot do anything about what the "Weather God" did to the World Skiing Championships in Morioka. It was only thanks to their tireless and self-sacrificing work that most of the events took place.

The world of sport and, in particular, professional soccer, will be able to see during the next ten years just how professionally the Japanese complete a job they have started. As special ambassador for World Cup 2002, I know everything about what the Japanese, ten years ahead of time, have already accomplished.

It may have taken a long time for them to arrive at a decision to apply for the 2002 World Cup, but now they are working to perfection. They have already submitted their plans to FIFA, and made them public.

Along with myself, Pele and Bobby Charlton are backing the idea of the 2002 World Cup taking place in Japan. And we can do so with a clear conscience, because the plans for completely new stadiums are already on the table. In addition, the Japanese have a concept about upgrading those stadiums which already exist and are suitable for World Cup competition. Japan has long since taken the pole position in the race for the 2002 World Cup. Two components come together here which speak in Japan's favour. First, awarding the 2002 World Cup to Japan will establish the breakthrough of the world's most popular game in the highly-developed continent

The Japanese are success-orientated . . . they want to see performance

of Asia. Secondly, one need not have any moral qualms, as is the case in many a developing country, about the enormous costs involved. The Japanese are wealthy enough to afford the World Cup.

They will be taking the first step in the right direction this month with the start of the J-League. This cannot be accomplished without the help of industry. In the past, teams displayed the name of firms on their jerseys. In effect, they were company teams. Today, these clubs are independent, although they continue to display the names of sponsors.

Officially speaking, I am an adviser to the Mitsubishi team. I will use the opportunity to observe the Mitsubishi team and analyse strengths and weaknesses. Then I'll give those in charge some advice. But the main work has to be done by the coaches.

Most Japanese clubs will make full use of their right to put three foreigners on the field but overall, the trend will lean more toward the technically brilliant South Americans, because technical skill is the area where the Japanese most need to catch up. They are similar to Europeans, playing a strong, running game with tactical discipline.

For this reason, many European players will be getting their hopes up in vain. The Japanese are wary, difficult for players' agents to convince, and are not going to be throwing their money out of the window.

The Japanese are success-orientated. They want to see performance, and so it could very well be that some younger players might have a better chance of making a career there.

J.LEAGUE

Into the unknown

THE J-LEAGUE kicks off at 7.30 on Saturday, May 15, with a showdown at Tokyo's national stadium between Verdy Kawasaki and Yokohama Marinos.

Nearly a million fans have applied for the 60,000 tickets to the game, which also will be broadcast live on nationwide television. Other teams, including Gary Lineker's Nagoya Grampus Eight, get started the following day.

The build-up has been hectic over the past few months. The shops are full of J-League potato crisps, J-League beer and every conceivable souvenir from scarfs and hats to medallions. You can buy them with J-League credit cards, marked with the badge of your club. And the lucky few who get to see the opening game will even have their name printed on their ticket.

Football is about to receive a media blitz. Every J-League game will be telecast via communications satellite and 18 out of the 90 matches in the first two months also will be shown nationwide on conventional TV. Evening kick-offs for almost all matches ensure prime-time slots. Besides, several local networks will broadcast every game of their respective home team.

Most of the foreign stars are Brazilian, including Zico at Kashima Antlers, Jorginho at Nagoya Grampus Eight and Edu (formerly with Torino and Porto) at Yokohama Flugels. The second Edu, from Corinthians, has signed for Shimizu S Pulse.

But the roll-call also includes Lineker at Grampus Eight, Pierre Littbarski at JEF United, Jean-Paul Vonderburg at Sanfrecce Hiroshima and David Bisconti and Ramon Diaz at Yokohama Marinos. The rules allow three foreigners to appear on the pitch at one time.

Big-name visitors invited to join the party in the final weeks before the league kicks off include Lazio, Manchester City, Fluminense, Gremio and Atletico Mineiro. Paul Gascoigne and Lineker are scheduled to meet on opposite sides at Tokyo's national stadium on May 2.

Zico . . . top man for the Kashima Antlers.

The J-League started out as a proposal for raising the standard of the national team. Football administrators, feeling that Japanese football was going nowhere, wanted to provide a proper youth coaching structure and career opportunities for young players. As an afterthought, there also came the question of Japan's bid for the 2002 World Cup.

The ambition of the league can be measured by how much it costs. The annual running cost of a J-League Club is estimated at 2,000 million yen (nearly £12 million) per year. Of this, about half can be met by attendances and various sponsorship deals. The rest must come from each club's main sponsors, which include both major companies and local governments.

The wage bill alone is enormous. Lineker tops the list with an annual salary worth nearly £1,800,0000. Ramon Diaz gets 200 million yen, and Littbarski and Jorginho are both promised 100 million (just under £600,000). The top Japanese player, Kazuyoshi Miura, receives 120 million (about £700,000).

Can all this last? Is the interest in football genuine? And will companies continue to foot such enormous bills?

On the bright side, the roots are firmly established. Football has been the number one participation sport for Japanese boys for more than a decade. They seem to prefer its free-flowing style to the rigid discipline of Japanese baseball. Besides, Japan has had a national league since 1965. Even the high school final attracts capacity 60,000 crowds.

A random survey conducted in December, 1992, revealed that 31.4 per cent of all Japanese strongly wish to see a J-League game at a stadium, compared with 33.5 per cent for baseball. The key figures show football ahead of baseball among children (35 per cent against 32.8 per cent) and young adults (36.5 per cent against 34.8 per cent).

Financing may be a bigger problem. The J-League was born in the heady years of the late 1980's when, buoyed by soaring land and stock prices, money was almost free. It is hard to imagine that the proposal would have got off the ground if made during the current business recession.

Saburo Kawauchi, the J-League's chairman, predicts that teams should start breaking even after five years. This may be over-optimistic as attendances still hover at around 10,000.

However, more companies still want to join the party. Yamaha, Hitachi and Fujita have already applied. Yanmar and PJM are thinking of doing so.

Kawabuchi speaks of expanding the league from 10 teams to 15 or 18 over the next 10 years.

THE CLUBS

VERDY KAWASAKI

ALSO called Yomiuri Verdy. The powerhouse of Japanese football with current national team stars such as Kazuyoshi Miura and Nobuhiro Takeda in attack, Ruy Ramos and Tsuyoshi Kitazawa in midfield, and Tetsuji Hashiratani and Satoshi Tsunami in defence. The team are known for their flowing Brazilian style. Title-favourites, but questions have been asked about the change of manager now that Pepe has returned to Brazil.

Manager: Yasutaro Matsug.

Foreign coaches: Frans Van Balkom (Australia, head coach), Luis Flavio Ribeiro Buongerimino (Brazil, physiotherapist).

Foreign players: Marcio Amoroso dos Santos (Brazil, midfield), Luis Carlos Pereira (Brazil, defence), Paulinho (Brazil, forward), Kim San-jun (North Korea, forward).

Home stadium: Todoroki, Kawasaki.

Capacity: 15,000 (A new 100,000 all-seater stadium is planned for the year 2000).

Main sponsors: Yomiuri (newspaper) and Nihon Television.

Company name: Yomiuri Nihon Soccer Club.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS

MARINOS are the old Nissan team, Yomiuri's great rivals and holders of the Asian Cup-winners' Cup. Current national team stars include Shigetatsu Matsunaga in goal and Toshinobu Katsuya and Masami Ihara in defence. Winger Takahiro Yamada has recently made the national team squad. Marinos will miss national-team captain Tetsuji Hashiratani, now transferred to Verdy, but with the addition of foreign stars like Ramon Diaz and Visconti will be strong challengers for the title.

Manager: Hidehiko Shimizu.

Foreign coach: Edison Yamazaki (Brazil, physiotherapist).

Foreign players: Everton Nogueira (Brazil, midfield), Mario Cesar (Brazil, midfield), Ramon Diaz (Argentina national team, forward), David Bisconti (Argentina national team, midfield).

Home stadium: Mitsuzawa, Yokohama.

Capacity: 15,000 (A new 70,000 all-seater stadium is planned for 1997).

Main sponsor: Nissan.

Company name: Nissan FC. Yokohama Marinos.

KASHIMA ANTLERS

ANTLERS are based on the former Sumitomo team but with a big influx of Honda players. Their home town, Kashima, with a population of barely 45,000, has chosen football as the path to nationwide fame. The team's name refers to the deer of Kashima Shrine. Antlers are strong up front, with Zico and current national-team striker Hisashi Kurosaki, but are also likely to concede a lot of goals. Should be entertaining to watch.

Manager: Masakatsu Miyamoto.

Foreign coaches: Juan Batista Lopes Abelha (Brazil).

Foreign players: Zico (Brazil national team, midfield), Carlos Alberto Souza dos Santos (Brazil national team, midfield), Alcindo Sartori (Brazil, midfield), Carlos Soares Garrit (Brazil, midfield), Regis Felisberto Masarim (Brazil, midfield).

Home stadium: Kashima, Ibaraki Prefecture.

Capacity: 15,000.

Main sponsors: Sumitomo Metals, Kashima Town.

Company name: Kashima Antlers FC.

JEF UNITED

ALSO called JEF United Ichihara. JEF (pronounced Jeff) are the outgrowth of the old Furukawa team that won the Asian Champions' Cup in 1986. Strong in defence. The arrival of Littbarski should also add sparkle to attack. Keeper Kenichi Shimokawa is a current member of the national team squad. The team had problems finding a ground after local residents blocked plans to renovate the Akitsu stadium. They have now moved to Ichihara but must start the campaign without a home stadium.

Manager: Yoshikazu Nagai.

Foreign coaches: None.

Foreign players: Pierre Littbarski (German national team, forward), Pavel Rehak (Czechoslovakia, forward), Frantisek Myslivecek, (Czechoslovakia, midfield), Sandro Chaves de Assis Rosa (Brazil, defence).

Home stadium: Ichihara, Chiba Prefecture (under construction).

Capacity: 15,000.

Main sponsors: JR East (railway) and Furukawa Electric.

Company name: JR East Furukawa FC.

URAWA RED DIAMONDS

THREE red diamonds are the symbol of Mitsubishi, who won the Japan Soccer League title four times. This bright attacking team should do well. The star is current national team forward Masahiro Fukuda, who teams up well with veteran Nissan and Japan striker Koichi Hashiratani. The arrival of Trivisonno has tightened up the defence. The team also has some of the most excitable fans in Japan. A plucky, well-drilled side and great fun to watch.

Manager: Takaji Mori.

Adviser: Franz Beckenbauer.
Foreign coach: Jorge Oscar Castello (Argentina, physiotherapist).

Foreign players: Trivisonno (Argentina, defence), Marcelo Fabian Morales (Ecuador, midfield), Victor Hugo Ferreyra (Argentina national team, forward — a familiar face to Dundee United fans), Edwin Uehara (Peru, midfield).

Home stadium: Urawa, Saitama Prefecture.

Capacity: 15,000.
Main sponsor: Mitsubishi Motors.

Company name: Mitsubishi Urawa FC.

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA

SANFRECCE are based on the former Mazda team, previously Toyo Kogyo who won a record five Japanese titles. Scottish manager Stuart Baxter has a well-balanced team with second-choice national team keeper Kazuya Maekawa, plus national team regulars Hajime Moriyasu in midfield and Takuya Takagi at centre-forward. Swedish international Jean-Paul Vonderburg and American Daniel Calichman prop up the defence. Together with JEF, one of two chiefly European-style teams.

Manager: Stuart Baxter.
Foreign coach: J.A. Jonsson (Sweden).

Foreign players: Jean-Paul Vonderburg (Sweden, defence), Noh Jung-Yoon (South Korea, forward), Daniel Calichman (United States, defence), Andrey Gustavo dos Santos (Brazil, midfield), Lee Baxter (Scotland, goalkeeper).

Home stadium: Hiroshima.

Capacity: 15,000.

Main sponsors: Mazda, Hiroshima Prefecture and others.

Company name: Sanfrecce Hiroshima FC.

GAMBA OSAKA

GAMBA are based on the old Matsushita team. Managed by Kunishige Kamamoto, the star of Japan's 1968 Olympic side. This well-drilled, hard-running squad won the Queen's Cup in Thailand last autumn. Akihiro Nagashima is the key man up front while veteran Chinese sweeper Jia Xiuquan marshals the defence. Rumours still fly that Gamba are negotiating with Careca, but nothing is confirmed as yet. In the meantime, they have signed a trio of very handy Brazilians.

Manager: Kunishige Kamamoto.
Foreign coach: Withaya Laohakul (Thailand, head coach).

Foreign players: Jia Xiuquan (China national team, defence), Flavio Henrique de Paiva (Brazil, defence), Miguel Luiz Muller (Brazil, midfield), Claudio (Brazil, defence).

Home stadium: Suita, Osaka Prefecture.

Capacity: 23,000.
Main sponsor: Matsushita Electric.

Company name: Panasonic Gamba Osaka.

YOKOHAMA FLUGELS

ALSO called AS Flugels, and based on the old All Nippon Airways team. Flugels means "wins" in German. Made a strategic error in not selecting a proper home town. In airline style, they settled for Yokohama, in central Japan, and the island of Kyushu several hundred miles away. A recent survey revealed zero support in Yokohama. They have a lot of image-building to do. Defender Naoto Otake is a member of the national squad. Manager Shu Kamo led Nissan to the triple crown of the League, Emperor's Cup and League Cup in the late 1980's.

Manager: Shu Kamo.

Foreign coaches: Elcio Mineli de Avila (Brazil), Gert Engels (Brazil).

Foreign players: Edu (Carlos Eduardo Marangon — Brazil national team, midfield), Chelona (Jaime Alberto Rodriguez — El Salvador national team, forward), Angelo Carlos Pretti (Brazil, forward), Fernando Daniel Moner (Argentina, midfield), Aldrovani Menon (Brazil, forward).

Home stadium: Yokohama, others (Yokohama same as Marinos).

Main sponsors: All Nippon Airways, Sato Kogyo.

Company name: ANA Sato Kogyo FC.

SHIMIZU S PULSE

A NEW team founded in Shimizu, the most football-crazy city in Japan. Shimizu has produced champion teams in all age groups and for both sexes, including Kazuyoshi Miura. The city (population: 240,000) plans to build a 100,000 capacity all-seat football stadium. Managed by Brazilian keeper Leao, S Pulse (S for soccer, speedy, Shimizu etc) are a good outside shot for the title. Stars include national-team defender Takumi Horiike and midfielder Masaaki Sawanobori, plus Toninho, top scorer in the final Japan Soccer League.

Manager: Emerson Leao.

Foreign coaches: Inaldo Jose Alves (Brazil, physiotherapist), Marquinho (Antonio Marques Lopes), (Brazil, goalkeeper coach).

Foreign players: Ademir Santos (Brazil, midfield), forward, Toninho (Brazil national team, forward), Gerson Antonio Porto (Brazil, forward), Edu (Brazil, midfield). Marco Antonio (Brazil, defence).

Home stadium: Shimizu, Shizuoka Prefecture.

Capacity: 15,000.

Main sponsors: Shizuoka Television, private shareholders, others.

Company name: Shimizu FC S Pulse.

NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT

LINEKER'S new side is based on the old Toyota club. Grampus Eight have chosen a promising blend of young Japanese and veteran foreign players but seem liable to injury problems. Tetsuya Asano, the national team star in midfield, has been troubled by injury since last year. Defence also is shaky. Lineker must work hard for his place against the likes of Garca, Pita and Havenaar in view of the three-foreigners rule. Jorginho, the playmaker, is the one man who cannot be left out.

Manager: Ryuzo Hiraki.

Foreign coaches: None.

Foreign players: Gary Lineker (England national team, forward), Jorginho (Brazil national team: midfield), Garca (Edson Rodrigues — Brazil, defence), Pita (Brazil national team, defence), Dirk "Dido" Havenaar (Holland, goalkeeper).

Home stadiums: Nagoya.

Capacities: 15,000 and 30,000.

Main sponsors: Toyota, Tokai Bank, many others.

Company name: Nagoya Grampus Eight.

The J-League party could still turn into a long drawn-out circus. The season has been divided into two halves with all teams meeting each other four times overall.

The winners of each half then play off for the title. Together with the League Cup, that makes two games a week all season, with the Emperor's Cup to follow.

The burden for the players is not helped by the decision to use sudden-death extra-time, followed by penalty shoot-outs, when scores are level. There will be no draws in the J-League. This reflects an anxiety that football might not catch on, but it is a shame that the players must suffer.

THE KEIR RADNEDGE COMMENTARY

Wait for it—

UEFA boss explains why bigger means better

Gerd Aigner.

Lennart Johansson.

LET ME tell you more about the proposed European Superleague: information gleaned first-hand in an exclusive interview with UEFA general secretary Gerd Aigner.

For new readers, UEFA president Lennart Johansson wants to merge the Champions' Cup and UEFA Cup from 1994-95 into a 128-entry Superleague.

The early (autumn) rounds would be organised on the traditional knock-out basis; the spring round would be organised mini-league style with four groups of four clubs followed by semi-finals and a grand final.

Milan president Silvio Berlusconi, Real Madrid's Ramon Mendoza and the other big clubs in western Europe are all in favour. Berlusconi's vision of a club-led game in which national team competitions are emasculated is nothing new. But, despite reports to the contrary, do not expect a decision from UEFA's next executive meeting, on April 21.

Aigner says: "That would be much too soon. First the executive must like the idea enough for our study group to consider all the details. That cannot be done overnight."

The detail to which Aigner refers includes:

● ***The name.*** Can it still be the Champions League or Cup when up to five teams from any one country will enter? Aigner says: "That is open for discussion. It could still be a Champions competition. After all, the winning club would have earned the right to call themselves champions."

● ***The format.*** Is it inevitable that a full first round must be played in August? Aigner says: "In the coming years we must find room in our competitions for clubs from up to 15 new countries. Perhaps what is now the preliminary round might become a 'proper' first round."

● ***The selection process.*** Aigner says: "We already have the coefficient system which measures achievement for entry into the UEFA Cup."

● ***The final stages,*** after the mini-leagues are over. Aigner says: "The top two teams in each group must go forward so we will need knock-out quarter-finals and semi-finals. But it would have to be single matches. Perhaps the group winners would have the right of playing at home in the quarter-finals. The semi-finals should be one-off matches at neutral venues."

Interestingly, Aigner says such a format would produce four fewer matches than now. He says: "This shows that our concern is with the quality of football in our competitions and how that can be properly reflected by structured television coverage."

I asked Aigner whether UEFA could produce a formula which provided a bonus to reward those clubs who had won their league, as compared with the also-rans who will join them in the same European Superleague.

Aigner said: "Perhaps we can do something with the seeding arrangements."

In his "new Europe" Aigner raised for consideration the diminishing status of the Cup-winners' Cup. This could even start with a mini-leagues format to help "refine" the later stages of competition in which the few quality teams are often drawn together, to the detriment of the quality of the event.

In the meantime, now the initial positive club reaction has subsided, some of the federations are turning uppity. Italy in particular. Federation president Antonio Matarrese was not happy to learn of Johansson's proposals, initially, through the press.

Associates say he may threaten to quit as a UEFA vice-president if the scheme goes through. Matarrese feels his pride and position undermined because the big clubs have, in effect, gone over his head.

An ally is Luciano Nizzola, president of the Italian league and thus mandated not by the big club minority but by the little club majority.

Predictably, he says: "I'm worried. UEFA would want at least five of our clubs involved and that would detract from the importance in our own Serie A. Fans would stay away from the stadia and interest in our pools betting would fall. Only the clubs involved in European competition would profit; everyone else would lose."

Now, is this — and a similar outburst from the French league — serious or mere posturing to establish a basis for negotiation? It looks like the latter.

After all, Johansson's proposals do not call for the involvement of any more clubs than now. So what's the problem there?

My own hope is that UEFA's consigning of the issue to a study group does not reduce public debate. *WORLD SOCCER* has always believed that a European league is inevitable. But, as Aigner says, many interests need to be protected along the way to ensure that Johansson's rocket does not explode on the launch pad.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT A EUROPEAN SUPER LEAGUE?
Write to:
Superleague, *WORLD SOCCER*, 25th floor, Kings Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 1LS.

Spurs go into the export business

ITALIAN clubs, traditionally, have led the way in mobilising expatriate support.

Milan, Juventus and Internazionale have proudly nurtured fan clubs wherever two or three Italians are gathered together.

Oddly, domestic clubs — for all the huge interest abroad in the British game — have never reciprocated.

Until now, that is. Tottenham have decided to open up the market by launching an International Members Club. Initial response has been remarkable. Terry Venables is president and Bill Nicholson vice-president and the stated aim is "to forge closer links with our thousands of overseas supporters and offer special benefits for fans abroad."

Those "'special benefits" include discounts on merchandise and tickets (whenever the member gets back to the old country, that is) plus publications and other assorted goodies. And, probably most important, a chance to feel "one of the family."

Venables . . . fan club president.

Membership costs £20. Write to: Spurs' IMC office at White Hart Lane, London N19, please. *NOT TO US.*

Bayern Munich meet the Loch Ness Monster

THINGS have been stirring in deepest Bavaria, as is perfectly obvious from a glance at the top of the Bundesliga.

Bayern Munich, last season's crisis club, are back in place at the top of the table as if nothing had happened. But it has. And don't the players know it!

Bayern lost their grip because, inevitably, after so many years of success, they went soft. That was the self-diagnosis.

Bayern had a reputation as a caring club. Long-term injury victims such as the Dane Lars Lunde, and the Scot Alan McNally can testify to the fact. But, as any manager will tell you, give some players an inch and they'll take a mile. Hence last season's revolution which brought in Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and Franz Beckenbauer as executive vice-presidents and Erich Ribbeck (above, right) as coach.

Now, all the players live in fear of their places. And the results, as general manager Uli Hoeness may point out, speak for themselves. If any player is not up to the mark, out he goes. Or never even gets a look in, like Thomas Berthold.

As an example of the ruthless new policy consider goalkeeper Raimond Aumann. Being Germany's No. 3 was not enough: Bayern tried to lure Andy Kopke, the national team's first choice. That's why Bayern's players call Ribbeck "Sir Killer". But Ribbeck is only the last link in the chain. Blame — or credit, depending on your point of view — for the change of heart rests with Rummenigge and Beckenbauer though you will rarely find them in the VIP box together on match day. The players call them the Loch Ness Monster because "we never see them but we've heard of people who have."

Rummenigge shrugs off the barb. He says: "Our end of the business is the transfer politic. You don't have to go to every game for that. Quite the opposite."

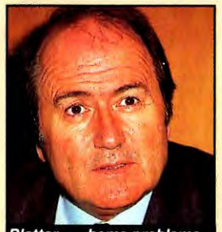
The formula appears to work. As Hoeness says: "We cannot afford to be as super-professional as Milan. Even we don't have the sort of money to solve every problem. We have to find a middle way."

Look what's happening on FIFA's doorstep

SWITZERLAND is home to FIFA, to UEFA and to a vast number of men and women appointed to administer all soccer's rules and regulations.

But Sepp Blatter, FIFA's Swiss chief executive, might be advised to let the world game police itself for a day or two while he takes a look at his own back yard.

I attended the World Cup qualifier between Switzerland and Portugal in the Wankdorf stadium in Bern.



Blatter . . . home problems.

It's an historic old stadium, committed to legend as the venue for West Germany's 1954 World Cup Final defeat of Hungary — one of the greatest upsets in soccer history.

But attending the Wankdorf now is like stepping into a time warp.

● All spectators were body searched by far too few police, doing the job in far too perfunctory a manner and, through shortage of manpower, far too slowly to prevent the threat of crowd crush.

● Spectators were allowed to stand in the gangways throughout the match.

● Stewards lacked any identifying bibs or bright uniforms and were thus invisible — if there were any.

● Fans were allowed to carry trays of beer into the crowd at half-time.

● Swiss and Portuguese fans were mixed in together.

And this is a country which campaigned to host the 1998 World Cup. None of the above would be allowed in England, Holland, Italy or Germany.

No good saying there's no history of crowd trouble in Switzerland. Nobody had died at Heysel before the 1985 Champions' Cup Final.

Organisation of Switzerland v Portugal was headed by top Swiss official Edgar Obertufer. He was the observer at Leeds v Stuttgart who failed to spot, when handed the team list before kick-off, that Stuttgart had named too many foreigners.

Unchecked, coach Christoph Daum compounded his original error by using all four men and provoking the replay which cost Stuttgart millions.

If FIFA are responsible for policing the world game, that remit surely must include Switzerland . . . particularly in the World Cup, FIFA's own competition.

The ultimate coach trip

WHAT is a coach? Is he just the man with the loudest voice on the touchline?

Is he merely fulfilling the old cliche that "Those who can Do, those who can't Teach"?

Coaching has not always enjoyed the happiest of images. Perhaps it's something to do with those video clips of American football coaches, wearing their headphones and voice mikes, apparently dictating all the creativity out of would-be sportsmen on the field (Of course, some would not consider gridiron football a sport anyway).

Then again, coaching has been seen as a negative influence — the vehicle through which successive talentless but well-drilled teams have outmanoeuvred their betters.

Coaching,for too long, has been considered a substitute for talent and ability. Time, therefore, to redress the balance.

Adidas are backing a new Independent Association of Coaches and we are providing house room for the steering committee's first meeting.

Glenn Hoddle, Dave Sexton, John Cartwright, David O'Leary, Gordon Strachan (right) and Don Howe are among the cast.

Watch this space.

Cremonese's Verdelli celebrates his goal against Derby in the Anglo-Italian Cup Final at Wembley.

Green-tinted spectacles for the Anglo-Italians

THE colourful history of the Anglo-Italian Cup is likely to turn from red and yellow to green.

I understand that, despite 19 expulsions and 79 bookings in this season's competition, the corridors of power in England and Italy are likely to sanction another next season, though a decision will not be made until the end of this term.

Potential entrants from the top of England's First Division and Italy's Serie B may not be quite as enthusiastic as the administrators after Derby's experience recently.

Derby had no problem with their 3-1 defeat by Cremonese in a physically competitive final at Wembley. Owner Lionel Pickering and manager Arthur Cox freely admitted they had been beaten by the better team and were lucky to escape as lightly as they did.

But it was only by reaching Wembley that Derby made any money from the event. And, while football has ridden the recession remarkably well, peripheral adventures which drain even those scant resources within the game — particularly at lower levels — should be regarded with greatest suspicion.

Pickering says: "We've made around £125,000 from Wembley tickets and there will be another £25,000 of television money. But it was only when we got to the semi-finals that we broke even financially. Until then we were probably around £30,000 in the red beacuse of all the expenses of the qualifying competition.

"We were very well treated in Italy but the attendances there were minute. I can't think they made anything out of it, either."

Derby probably will qualify next season, if the Anglo-Italian Cup survives, because they will have finished high enough in the First Division without cracking the promotion champagne which Pickering has set on ice at a personal cost of £9.6million. Do clubs have a choice about entering? In reality it seems not.

As Cox said: "We finished in the top eight last season, so we were proposed, so we took part."

Pickering admits that £150,000, courtesy of his first trip to Wembley, is not a healthy return on his investment at the Baseball Ground.

He says: "All credit to Blackburn and to Kevin Keegan at Newcastle. But we're living proof that you can't win promotion overnight just by throwing money at the team. It takes something else."

At Wembley, to return to the football, it must be said that Cremonese did provide "something else" in terms of sheer class.

Technically and tactically they were in a different league, though Derby goalkeeper Martin Taylor provided unwitting help.

He palmed a corner onto Corrado Verdelli's head for the first goal, redeemed himself with a penalty save, then conceded the penalty which Riccardo Maspero converted to negate an equaliser from Marco Gabbiadini.

Andrea Tentoni's breakaway third was mere icing on the Cremona cake.

Cox suggested the Italians would do well in the English Premier League.

He admired their pace up front from Tentoni and the Slovene, Matjaz Florjancic; the busy skill in midfield exemplified by Eligio Nicolini; and the "over-my-dead-body" defending of Luigi Gualco.

The running battle between Gualco and Gabbiadini kept Spanish referee Urio Velazquez busy.

But it was significant that after both players had been calmed down by yellow cards, it was Gualco who emerged as the more influential footballer.

The physical skirmishing aroused the fans. But Derby's Mark Pembridge, despite collecting a cut eye, said this was much less ferocious than previous matches.

As Cremonese coach Gigi Simoni added: "It was precisely what you would expect from a cup final between an English team and an Italian team."

Whether that, financial and fatigue considerations aside, serves the interests of Anglo-Italian football relations is open to question. My view is that Channel 4 has, in that sphere, achieved rather more than the Anglo-Italian Cup.

New cocaine shock

Caniggia may miss World Cup '94

By KEIR **RADNEDGE**

CLAUDIO CANIGGIA, Roma's Argentine World Cup forward, could miss the 1994 World Cup finals in the United States after being caught in an Italian League dope test.

Caniggia, 26, supplied a urine sample which contained a cocaine trace after Roma's 1-1 home draw against Napoli in the Serie A on March 21.

Initially Caniggia denied newspaper reports, after a sample tested positive, that he was the guilty player. But the federation verified that the Roma players tested were Caniggia and German Thomas Hassler and a second test was also positive.

The case "broke" almost exactly two years after fellow Argentine World Cup star Diego Maradona tested positive for cocaine after an Italian league game — in his case, of course, playing for Napoli instead of against them.

Caniggia initially denied having taken anything. He said: "This is hell, the worst moment of my life but I will never quit soccer. A ban would be terrible. The World Cup qualifiers are in August. Caniggia must be there."

Caniggia's positive test could not have come at a worse time for Roma. President Giuseppe Ciarrapico was in prison on corruption charges, the club was considered out of financial control by the federation and had just been eliminated in the UEFA Cup quarter-finals by Borussia Dortmund.

Caniggia . . . the champagne lifestyle could soon be over.

The one bright spot was that Roma had beaten Milan 2-0, 0-1 to reach the Italian Cup Final: but even that achievement was tainted since it was Caniggia who had scored the all-important second goal in the first leg victory.

Caniggia is not the first Roma player trapped by dope tests. In the autumn of 1990 goalkeeper Angelo Peruzzi and forward Andrea Carnevale were banned for a year after testing positive for amphetamine which, they claimed, had been commonly used within the club as a diuretic.

Maradona was banned for 15 months after testing positive for cocaine two years ago.

Caniggia, the subject of a cocaine-use investigation back in 1989, soon after his arrival at Verona from River Plate, risks the maximum two-year ban.

This would be confirmed worldwide by FIFA — following the Maradona example — and Caniggia would thus miss not only the World Cup qualifiers but the finals in the United States in June/July next year.

It is, as yet, uncertain whether Maradona — with his cocaine-use conviction in Argentina on his record — will be admitted by US immigration authorities to play in the World Cup.

Holland without Van Basten against England

MARCO Van Basten will miss Holland's crucial World Cup visit to Wembley to face England on April 28.

The injured ankle, on which he underwent surgery after being voted European Footballer of the Year in December, has responded more slowly than expected.

Milan and Holland officials have been told that Van Basten should not play competitively again this season. He hopes to play for Milan in the Champions' Cup Final, but Wembley is out.

A defeat for Holland would be disastrous but excellent news for both direct-rivals England and for Norway.

Holland possess an outside chance of making history. Three goals at Wembley would make them the eighth European country to reach 1,000 in full internationals. Their match average of 2.07 is the best in Europe after England, Hungary, Germany and Sweden.

PERRY **MENEXIS**

Europe heads back to Wembley

WEMBLEY will again stage a European final. The Cup-winners' Cup Final — a single-event final for perhaps the last time — will be held at England's national stadium on May 12.

Last year Wembley played host to the Champions' Cup Final in which Barcelona beat Sampdoria 1-0.

Another Italian team could be on duty this year after Parma won 2-1 away to Atletico Madrid in the first leg of the semi-finals. Their opponents will be Moscow Spartak, earlier and controversial conquerors of Liverpool, or Belgium's Antwerp. Only Atletico Madrid, out of the four semi-finalists, have appeared in a European final of any sort before: the Cup-winners' Cup in 1962 and 1963 and then the Champions' Cup in 1974.

EUROPEAN CUP RESULTS

CUP-WINNERS' CUP
Quarter-finals, 2nd legs

ATLETICO MADRID 3 (Manolo 10, 57, Alfaro 67)
OLYMPIAKOS 1 (Tsaluhidis 60)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** McCluskey (Sco)
Atletico Madrid won 4-2 on agg.
Atletico Madrid: Abel — Alfredo, Toni, Solozobal, Vizcaino, Juanito, Ferreira, Schuster, Moya (Alfaro 56), Manolo, Luis Garcia.
Olympiakos: Mirtsos — Chadzidis, Tsiantakis (Sofianopulos 25), Mitsibonas, Mavromatis, Tsaluhidis, Litovchenko, Savidis, Batista, Karapialis, Vaitsis.

MOSCOW SPARTAK 3 (Karpin 7, 78, Radchenko 87)
FEYENOORD 1 (Kiprich 14)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 15,000 (Mar 18 - postponed from Mar 17). **Ref:** Quiniou (Fra)
Spartak won 4-1 on agg.
Spartak: Cherchesov — Khlestov, Bondar, Onopko, Ivanov, Karpin, Platnitski, Popov, Pisarev, Ledlakhov (*Cherenkov 46), Radchenko. *Cherenkov sent off, 81min.
Feyenoord: De Goey — *Van Gobbel, Metgod, De Wolf, Refos, Scholten, Gorre, Rob Witschge, Taument, Kiprich, Blinker. *Van Gobbel sent off, 81min.

PARMA 2 (Melli 11, Asprilla 33)
SPARTA PRAGUE 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 20,000 (Mar 17). **Ref:** Blankenstein (Hol).
Parma won 2-0 on agg.
Parma: Ballotta — Benarrivo, Di Chiara, Minotti, Apolloni, Grun, Melli (Pizzi 78), Zoratto, Brolin (Pin 86), Cuoghi, Asprilla.
Sparta: Kouba — Novotny, Vonasek, Vrabec, Hornak, Bilek, Nemec, Chovanec, Dvimik (Medved 46), Siegl, Frydek (Mistr 73).

STEAUA BUCHAREST 1 (Dumitrescu 19)
ANTWERP 1 (Czerniatynski 82)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 15,000 (Mar 17). **Ref:** Mottram (Sco)
Antwerp on away goals rule; agg 1-1.
Steaua: Stingaciu — Pirvu, Panait, Prodan, Sburlea, Gilca -Dumitrescu (fftodi 77), Pandaru, *Fulga, Vladoiu (Andrasi 81), Filipescu. *Fulga sent off.
Antwerp: Stojanovic — Kiekens, Brokaert, *Taelmans, Van Rethy (Jakolevic 64), Smidts, Segers, Van Verdeghem (Emmerechts 82), Severeyns, Lehnhoff, Czerniatynski. *Taelmans sent off.

Semi-finals: Atletico Madrid v Parma, Moscow Spartak v Antwerp.

UEFA CUP
Quarter-finals, second legs

AJAX 1 (F De Boer 61)
AUXERRE 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 43,000 (Mar 16). **Ref:** Rothlisberger (Swi)
Auxerre won 4-3 on agg.
Ajax: Van der Sar — Silooy, Blind (Seedorf 18), Alflen, F De Boer, Vink (Hansen 57), Overmars, Kreek, Pettersson, Bergkamp, Davids.
Auxerre: Martini — Goma, Prunier, Verlaat, Rabarivony, Guerreiro — Cocard, Dutuel, Baticle (Chiecschelski 89), Martins, Vahirua.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Schulz 40, Sippel 46)
ROMA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 36,800 (Mar 18). **Ref:** Krondl (Cze)
Dortmund won 2-1 on agg.
Dortmund: Klos — Reinhardt, Kutowski, Schultz, Zelic, Poschner (Grauer 89), Reuter, Zorc, Sippel, Rummenigge (Karl 80).
Roma: Cervone — Garzya, Aldair, Piacentini, Benedetti, Comi, Mihajlovic, Hassler, Muzzi (Carnevale 46), Giannini, Rizzitelli.

JUVENTUS 3 (Kohler 2, D. Baggio 45, Ravanelli 68)
BENFICA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 51,697 (Mar 17). **Ref:** Mikkelsen (Den)
Juventus won 4-2 on agg.
Juventus: Peruzzi — Carrera, Torricelli, D Baggio, Kohler, Julio Cesar, Moller (Ravanelli 65), Conte, Vialli, Roberto Baggio (Galia 65), Marocchi.
Benfica: Silvino (Nene 7) — Veloso, Helder, Mozer, Paulo Madeira (Rui Aguas 46), Paulo Sousa, Vitor Paneira, Schwarz, Joao Pinto II, Yuran, Rui Costa.

PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN 4 (Weah 33, Ginola 80, Valdo 87, Kombouare 90)
REAL MADRID 1 (Zamorano 89)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 45,000 (Mar 18). **Ref:** Puhl (Hun)
Paris S-G won 5-4 on agg.
PSG: Lama — Sassus (Germain 75), Colleter, Ricardo Gomes, Kombouare, Le Guen, Simba (Bravo 73), Guerin, Weah, Valdo, Ginola.
Real Madrid: Buyo — Ricardo Rocha, Lasa, Nando, Ramis, Hierro, Butragueno (Villaroya 64), Michel, Zamorano, Prosinecki, Luis Enrique (Alfonso 80).

Semi-finals: Juventus v Paris SG, Borussia Dortmund v Auxerre.

Running . . . Marseille's Franck Sauzee takes on the Club Brugge defence.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

★ MILAN topped Group B when they beat IFK Gothenburg 1-0 at the Ullevi stadium. They play Marseille or Rangers in the final in Munich on May 26.

★ NEXT year, UEFA has decided, the top *TWO* teams in each group will compete in knock-out, single-match semi-finals. The matches will be hosted by the group winners.

Shooting . . . PSV Eindhoven's Romario fires in a shot against Milan.

GROUP A

NOVEMBER 25

CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Amokachi 17)
CSKA MOSCOW 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 21,500. **Ref:** Karlsson (Swe)
Brugge: Verlinden — Verspaille (Creve 78), Cossey, Disztl, Plovie, Borkelmans, Verheyen, Staelens, Van der Elst, Amokachi (Querter 88), Dziubinski.
CSKA: Kharin (Gutseyev 46) — Gushin, Bystrov, Maliukov, Kolotovkin — Ivanov, Mashkarin, Kolesnikov — Sergeyev, Grishin (Karsakov 30), Faizulin.

RANGERS 2 (McSwegan 76, Hateley 82)
MARSEILLE 2 (Boksic 31, Voller 55)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 41,624. **Ref:** Puhl (Hun)
Rangers: Goram — Murray, D Robertson, Gough (Pressley 46), McPherson, Brown, Steven (McSwegan 74), McCall, Durrant, Hateley, Mikhailichenko.
Marseille: Barthez — Angloma, Di Meco, Boli, Sauzee, Desailly, Casoni, Boksic (Durand 82), Voller (Eydelie 89), Pele, Deschamps.

DECEMBER 9

CSKA MOSCOW 0
RANGERS 1 (Ferguson 13)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 9,000. **Ref:** K Nielsen (Den)
CSKA: Guteyev — Gushin (Ivanov 66), Kolotovkin, Bystrov, Fokhin, Maliukov, Minko (Grishin 59), Karsakov, Sergeyev, Bushmanov, Faizulin.
Rangers: Goram — McCall, D Robertson, Durrant, McPherson, Brown, Steven, Ferguson, McCoist, Hateley, Mikhailichenko.

MARSEILLE 3 (Sauzee 4pen, Boksic 10, 26)
CLUB BRUGGE 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Schmidhuber (Ger)
Marseille: Barthez — Angloma, Casoni, Desailly, Di Meco, Eydelie (Durand 82), Deschamps, Sauzee, Thomas, Boksic (Ferreri 86), Pele.
Brugge: Verlinden — Verspaille, Plovie, Disztl, Borkelmans, Verheyen, Van der Heyden, Staelens, Van der Elst, Amokachi (Cossey 46), Dziubinski.

MARCH 3

BRUGGE 1 (Dziubinski 44)
RANGERS 1 (Huistra 72)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 19,000. **Ref:** Martin Navarrete (Spa)
Brugge: Verlinden — Cossey (Verspaille 80), Van der Elst, Verheyen, Borkelmans, Dziubinski, Creve (Renier 79), Querter, Staelens, Booy, Amokachi.
Rangers: Goram — Nisbet (Pressley 84), D Robertson, Murray, McPherson, Brown, Mikhailichenko, McCall, McCoist, Hateley, Huistra.

CSKA MOSCOW 1 (Faizulin 55)
MARSEILLE 1 (Pele 27)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000 (in Berlin).
Ref: Baldas (Ita)
CSKA: Plotnikov — Mamchour, Maliukov, Bystov, Kolotovkin, Antonovich, Minko (Karsakov 54), Bushmanov, Ivanov (Dudnik 46), Sergeyev, Faizulin.
Marseille: Barthez — Eytdelie, Angloma, Casoni, Desailly, Di Meco, Deschamps, Sauzee, Pele, Boksic, Dobrovolski (Durand 58).

MARCH 17

MARSEILLE 6 (Sauzee 4 pen, 34, 48, Pele 42, Ferreri 70, Desailly 78)
CSKA MOSCOW 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Muhmenthaler (Swi)
Marseille: Barthez — Angloma, Desailly, Boli, Di Meco — Deschamps, Sauzee (Eydelie 65), Durand, Pele — Boksic, Voller (Ferreri 64).
CSKA: Guteyev — Mamchur, Maliukov, Bystrov, Kolotovkin — Antonovich, Minko, Bushmanov, Mashkarin (Karsakov 39) — Sergeyev, Faizulin.

RANGERS 2 (Durrant 40, Nisbet 71)
BRUGGE 1 (Staelens 51)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 42,731. **Ref:** Wojcik (Pol).
Rangers: Goram — Nisbet, Murray, Gough, McPherson, Brown, Steven, McCall, McCoist, *Hateley, Durrant (Hagen 85).
* Hateley sent off, 45min.
Brugge: Verlinden — Disztl, F Van der Elst, Verheyen, Borkelmans, Van der Heyden, Creve, Cossey, Staelens, Schaessens (Dziubinski 76), Amokachi.

APRIL 7

MARSEILLE 1 (Sauzee 18)
RANGERS 1 (Durrant 52).
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Van der Ende (Hol).
Marseille: Barthez — Boli, Desailly, Di Meco, Angloma, Deschamps, Eydelie, Sauzee, Pele, Boksic, Voller.
Rangers: Goram — McPherson, Gough, Brown, D. Robertson (Murray 54), Steven, McCall, Ferguson, Durrant, Huistra (McSwegan 75), McCoist.

CSKA MOSCOW 1 (Sergeyev 18)
CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Schaessens 43, Verheyen 83)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 2,500 (in Berlin).
CSKA: Plotnikov — Gushin, Kolotovkin, Maskarin, Maliukov, Bushmanov, Minko, Karsakov (Mamchur 73), V. Ivanov (Antonovich 31), Sergeyev, Faizulin.
Brugge: Verlinden — Cossey, F. Van der Elst, Borkelmans, Van der Heyden, Creve, Staelens, Schaessens, Dziubinski, Amokachi (Vanmaerle 85), Verheyen.

Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marseille	5	2	3	0	13	4	7
Rangers	5	2	3	0	7	5	7
Club Brugge	5	2	1	2	5	7	5
CSKA Moscow	5	0	1	4	2	11	1

To play *(April 21)*: Club Brugge v Marseille
Rangers v CSKA Moscow

GROUP B

NOVEMBER 25

MILAN 4 (Van Basten 33, 53pen, 61, 62)
IFK GOTHENBURG 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 61,000. **Ref:** Van den Wijngaert (Bel)
Milan: Antonioli — Tassotti, Massaro, Albertini, Costacurta (Nava 67), Baresi, Lentini (Simone 74), Rijkaard, Van Basten, Papin, Eranio.
IFK: Ravelli — Johansson, Pedersen, Svensson, Kamark, P Eriksson, Rehn (Leksell 62), Mild, M Nilsson, T Andersson, Ekstrom.

FC PORTO 2 (Jaime Magalhaes 35, Jose Carlos 75)
PSV EINDHOVEN 2 (Romario 43, 60)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 50,000. **Ref:** Martin Navarrete (Spa)
Porto: Vitor Baia — Joao Pinto, Andre, Aloisio, Jose Carlos, Rui Filipe, Jaime Magalhaes, Kostadinov, Domingos, Semedo (Toze 63), Jorge Couto.
PSV: Van Breukelen — Linskens, *Van Tiggelen, E Koeman (De Jong 80), Heintze (Faber 32), Popescu, Vanenburg, Ellerman, Romario, Kieft, Numan.
* *Van Tiggelen sent off, 74min.*

DECEMBER 9

IFK GOTHENBURG 1 (Eriksson 87)
FC PORTO 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 22,303. **Ref:** Marko (Cze)
IFK: Ravelli — M Andersson, Kaamark, M Nilsson, Svensson, T Andersson, P Eriksson, Mild, Rehn, Bengtsson (Lindqvist 71), Ekstrom.
Porto: Vitor Baia — Joao Pinto, Aloisio, Fernando Couto, Bandeirinha, Jorge Couto, Antonio Carlos (Toze 65), Andre, Semedo, Kostadinov, Domingos.

PSV EINDHOVEN 1 (Romario 66)
MILAN 2 (Rijkaard 19, Simone 62)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 27,000. **Ref:** Spirin (Rus)
PSV: Van Breukelen — Beerens, Faber, Linskens, Heintze, Vanenburg, Popescu, Numan, Ellerman (Hoekstra 38), Romario, Kieft.
Milan: Rossi — Tassotti, Maldini, Albertini, Costacurta, Baresi, Lentini, Rijkaard, Van Basten, Gullit (Eranio 59), Simone (Massaro 89).

MARCH 3

PSV EINDHOVEN 1 (Numan 7)
IFK GOTHENBURG 3 (Nilsson 19, Ekstrom 34, 44)
HT: 1-3. **Att:** 27,500. **Ref:** Burge (Wal)
PSV: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, Van Tiggelen, Faber, Heintze, Popescu, Numan, Linskens (Vanenburg 46), Romario, Kieft, Hoekstra.
IFK: Ravelli- Johannsson, Bjorklund, Svensson, Kaamark, Eriksson, Rehn, Mild, Nilsson, Martinsson (Andersson 68), Ekstrom (Lindqvist 89).

FC PORTO 0
MILAN 1 (Papin 71)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 55,000. **Ref:** Schmidhuber (Ger)
FC Porto: Vitor Baia — Joao Pinto I, Fernando Couto, Aloisio, Jorge Costa, Jorge Couto (Domingos 68), Semedo, Toze, D Timofte, Kostadinov (Toni 78), Rui Jorge.
Milan: Rossi (Cudicini 87) — Tassotti, Maldini, Albertini, Costacurta, Baresi, Lentini, Boban, Papin, Gullit, Simone (Evani 79).

MARCH 17

IFK GOTHENBURG 3 (Nilsson 2, Ekstrtm, 44, Martinsson 48)
PSV EINDHOVEN 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 35,250. **Ref:** Craciunescu (Rom)
IFK: Ravelli — Johannsson, Bjorklund, Svensson, Kaamark, Eriksson (Andersson 48), Rehn, Mild, Nilsson, Martinsson, Ekstrom.
PSV: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, Van Tiggelen, Koeman, Faber, Linskens, Heintze, Numan (Kalusha Bwalya 14), Vanenburg, Romario, Hoekstra.

MILAN 1 (Eranio 31)
FC PORTO 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 67, 389. **Ref:** Don (Eng).
Milan: Rossi — Gambaro, Maldini, Albertini, Costacurta, Baresi, Lentini (Massaro 65), Eranio, Papin, Evani, Simone (Savicevic 81).
Porto: Vitor Baia — Joao Pinto I, Rui Jorge, Aloisio, Fernando Couto, Paulinho Santos, Jorge Couto, Andre (Bino 82), Timofte (Domingos 64), Semedo, Kostadinov.

APRIL 7

IFK GOTHENBURG 0
MILAN 1 (Massaro 70)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 40,300. **Ref:** Assenmacher (Ger).
IFK: Ravelli — Johansson, Bjorklund, Svensson, Kamark, Eriksson, Mild, Rehn, M. Nilsson, Martinson, Ekstrom.
Milan: Rossi — Tassotti, Costacurta, Nava, Maldini, Massaro (Gambaro 87), Rijkaard, Boban, Evani, Lentini, Savicevic.

PSV EINDHOVEN 0
FC PORTO 1 (Jose Carlos 77 pen)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,750.
PSV: Van Breukelen — Beerens, Faber, Koeman, Heintze, Klomp, Linskens, Vanenburg, Romario, Kieft (Ellerman 64), Hoekstra (Bwalya 87).
FC Porto: Vitor Baia — Bandeirinha, Vlk (Rui Jorge 67), Jose Carlos, F. Couto, Paulo Santos, J. Couto, J. Costa, Paulo Cesar, Manuel Macoes, Toni (Domingos 38).

Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MILAN	5	5	0	0	9	1	10
IFK Gothenburg	5	3	0	2	7	6	6
FC Porto	5	1	1	3	3	5	3
PSV	5	0	1	4	4	11	1

To play *(April 21)*: FC Porto v IFK Gothenburg Milan v PSV.

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Clubs caught in 'Tangentopoli' web

WHAT have Italian First Division football clubs Ancona, Lazio and AS Roma got in common?

Answer — all of them have been caught up in "Tangentopoli", Italy's year long bribery scandal.

To some extent, it was only a matter of time before the "Tangentopoli" investigators arrived on the doorsteps of important soccer clubs.

The barons of Italian industry have long looked on ownership of a fashionable soccer team as a surefire promotional success.

Public relations and publicity executives long ago realised that in soccer crazy Italy, you could get extensive media exposure simply by owning a soccer club.

Acres of sports daily newsprint and hours of nationwide and local TV soccer coverage inevitably afford an aspiring president a great many photo-opportunities.

What is more, all this publicity is free.

In this context, it is not surprising that "Tangentopoli" has touched the Italian soccer community.

The "Tangentopoli" scandal, originally an investigation into the illegal funding of political parties, has laid bare a corrupt and mutually beneficial pact between politicians and industry whereby public works contracts and public sector appointments were awarded by the parties in return for "tangenti" or bribes — kickbacks to the politicians, fat contracts to the industrial barons.

Among the hundreds of businessmen involved in the "Tangentopoli" investigation, there are inevitably a few who also happen to own football clubs.

Undoubtedly, the man who must answer the most serious charges is AS Roma president Giuseppe Ciarrapico.

As we write, Ciarrapico is in residence at the Regina Coeli prison in Rome held in "precautionary custody" while he answers charges of criminal association, corruption and fraud in relation to SAFIM Leasing, a finance company within the state industrial holding company EFIM, a conglomerate which until its liquidation last year operated in the aerospace, arms and aliminium sector and whose best known component was the helicopter builder Agusta.

Investigators believe that, along with AS Roma vice-president Mauro Leone, son of former state president Giovanni Leone, Ciarrapico defrauded EFIM to the tune of $20 million dollars with a series of scams including phantom old people's homes.

Furthermore, last September investigators suggested that Ciarrapico was able to purchase AS Roma only thanks to an illegal, low or no interest loan made available to him by SAFIM, of which Leone was then president.

Unfortunately for him, Ciarrapico is no stranger to judicial proceedings.

Last year, he was given a five and a half year suspeneded sentence for his involvement in the 1982 crash of Roberto Calvi's Banco Ambrosiano.

Here again, the Ambrosiano liquidators believe that Ciarrapico availed himself of "unorthodox" loans, subsequently not repaid, which in themselves helped bring down Calvi's bank.

Giuseppe Ciarrapico in better times with Claudio Caniggia.

As if that lot were not enough, Ciarrapico last month received another suspended sentence, this time for two years, for falsification and fraud relative to the purchase and subsequent bankruptcy of the chic Rome restaurant, "Casina Valadier".

On top of all this, Roma are now threatened with exclusion from next season's championship if they do not meet Italian Federation deadlines for payment of $5.6 million dollars by May 31st, a payment necessary to bring their books into order.

Given Ciarrapico's current problems, it would appear that he will, sooner or later, be forced to sell Roma.

Pasquale Casillo, currently involved with the Foggia, Bologna and Salernitana clubs could be the man to succeed Ciarrapico.

For the time being, Italian Federation president Antonio Matarrese has taken a sympathetic line with Roma saying that the Federation will be patient and allow the club time to get its financial and presidential affairs in order.

Watch this space.

Lazio and AS Roma caught up in the big bribery scandal.

Rome city rivals, Lazio, also have been touched by "Tangentopoli", with club president Sergio Cragnotti receiving notfification that he is under investigation for fraud and corruption in relation to "Enimont", a joint venture company between state holding giant ENI and chemical company Montedison.

Cragnotti, who was the Enimont managing director throughout its two-year-long existence and who had previously worked for Montedison, is being investigated for possible involvement in a scam whereby Montedison sold out its 50 per cent shareholding in "Enimont" to ENI, at an inflated price estimated to have been $520 million dollars over the odds.

Since leaving Montedison, Cragnotti has set up his own investment company, Cragnotti and Partners, currently untouched by the "Tangentopoli" scandal.

Ancona is another club with problems.

Not only is the club on its way back to Division Two, but it is also desperately looking for a new owner, given that its current patron, building tycoon Edoardo Longarini, can guarantee salaries only until June 30.

Longarini's career in soccer has been interrupted by the "Tangentopoli" investigators who have accused him of fraud and corrupt practices in relation to a series of public works projects in the city of Ancona.

A Longarini speciality, allegedly, was to build half a road and stop and then restart again, years later, thus escalating the costs.

Perhaps, Italian soccer will end up being grateful to "Tangentopoli".

Time will tell if it is better off without the likes of Ciarrapico and Longarini.

While their cases await judgement, prepare for further judicial developments in the soccer community relative to inflated prices charged by contractors for Italia '90 World Cup renovation work, especially on the stadia of Rome, Verona and Naples.

It never rains, but it pours.

PADDY **AGNEW**

THE SPOT LIGHT ON **ABEL BALBO**

ONE-MAN BAND

But Udinese look sure to Lose their top shot

ABEL BALBO is the Udinese attack on his own, according to former Italy centre-forward Giorgio Chinaglia, now a TV pundit.

Such a remark ignores the skilful contribution of Balbo's frontline partner, Marco Branca, but Chinaglia makes a valid point.

Since signing from River Plate in 1989, Argentine international Balbo has proved Udinese's most consistent finisher. He was the club's leading scorer in each of his first three years in Italy — with an aggregate of 34 goals — and this season his strike rate is even more impressive.

On the opening day of 1992-93 his scorching 20-yard drive put Udinese on course for a 2-1 win over Internazionale, and from that moment Balbao's scoring touch has rarely deserted him.

His hat-trick in the 5-2 victory against Pescàra last October was a masterclass of quality marksmanship.

First he powered in a header from Fabio Rossitto's cross, then he intelligently evaded the offside trap before nonchalantly flicking the ball home, and to complete a memorable treble he converted a penalty after a foul on Francesco Dell'Anno.

He scored 18 of his team's 28 goals in their first 20 Serie A games, and only Lazio's Giuseppe Signori had done better.

The title of Italy's top striker is not Abel's sole objective. He also has his sights on breaking Udinese's single-season scoring record in Serie A — 20 by Lorenzo Bettini in 1954-55.

Balbo's rich vein of form sparked the interest of Juventus, Inter — where he would team up with new Dutch recruit Dennis Bergkamp — and Torino, and Abel admits his days at Udinese could be numbered.

"When a player enjoys a good spell at a smaller club, he is expected to move on to a more ambitious team," he says. "That is what is likely to happen to me.

"It's not that I am unhappy at Udinese. Far from it. I've always been treated well here and the supporters appreciate my work.

"I am not being disloyal. After all, I might have left Udinese in 1990 when we were relegated to Serie B. But I decided to stay, and helped the club return to Serie A last year."

Abel Eduardo Balbo was born on June 1, 1966, in Villa Constitucion in Argentina's Santa Fe province. On leaving school he joined Newell's Old Boys of Rosario, but struggled to make an early impact.

"I had to wait five years to break into the senior side," he recalls.

"I was close to giving up hope of a successful career when I began a wonderful run of form with the reserves. For over two months I averaged two goals per game and then the club coach, Jose Yudica, promoted me to the first team.

"It was a tremendous feeling to have an opportunity at that level. Things worked out well. I scored nine times and we won the national championship."

Not that Balbo was destined for a prolonged stay at Newell's. In August 1988 his agent, Settimio Aloisio, concluded a deal to send Abel to Italian club Verona, but there was a snag. Verona already had their full quota of imports — Germany's Thomas Berthold and the Argentine pair, Pedro Troglio and Claudio Caniggia — so Balbo was loaned for a year to River Plate of Buenos Aires.

His readiness to take on defenders and his potent right-foot finishing guaranteed his popularity with fans and management.

"Abel is a revelation," said his then coach, Cesar Luis Menotti, early in 1989.

"He has good technique, is dedicated and very strong. His spirit never seems to flag and I am sure he has a great future."

Menotti was not alone in heaping praise upon Balbo. A number of local writers likened him to 1960s Argentine stars Luis Artime and Jose Sanfilippo. Others compared him with the country's 1978 World Cup hero, Mario Kempes.

Argentina boss Carlos Bilardo was aware of Balbo's class, and in March 1989 he made his international debut in a 1-0 friendly defeat in Colombia.

Meanwhile, Verona's once-ardent interest in Balbo had cooled considerably and they decided not to take up their option on him. Udinese president Giampaolo Pozzo promptly stepped in, and agreed to pay £800,000 for Abel in the summer of 1989.

Little did Balbo realise that the next 12 months would be a personal anti-climax. Despite his more than respectable Serie A haul of 11 goals, Udinese were relegated and his experience at the Italian World Cup in 1990 was equally frustrating.

He played in the tournament opener against Cameroon, but appeared distinctly out of his depth as Argentina crashed to a shock 1-0 defeat. And he took no further part in Italia '90.

"I was very disappointed not to do myself justice," Balbo says.

"Hopefully, since then I have been able to prove to Italian crowds that I am a good player."

NICK **BIDWELL**

PRO-FILE

ABEL EDUARDO BALBO

UDINESE AND ARGENTINA

Born: June 1, 1966, in Villa Constitucion, Argentina.

Previous clubs: Newell's Old Boys, River Plate *(on loan from Verona).*

League debut: August 1987, for Newell's Old Boys v Deportivo Espanol.

International debut: March 1989 v Colombia.

International caps: 8 (1 goal).

HONOURS

Argentine Championship: 1988.

RESULTS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 14

MIDWEEK

ITALIAN CUP — SEMI-FINALS, 1ST LEG

TORINO 1 (Poggi 79)
JUVENTUS 1 (R. Baggio 49 pen). **Att:** 37,775.

AS ROMA 2 (Muzzi 12, Caniggia 89)
MILAN 0. **Att:** 46,629.

WEEKEND

ANCONA 1 (Sogliano 38)
PARMA 1 (Melli 87). **Att:** 10,500.

BRESCIA 2 (Raducioiu 22, Rossi 70)
JUVENTUS 0. **Att:** 18,700.

SAMPDORIA 2 (Mancini 25, 70)
CAGLIARI 0. **Att:** 25,000.

FIORENTINA 2 (Effenberg 47, Batistuta 54)
PESCARA 0. **Att:** 30,420.

GENOA 0
FOGGIA 0. **Att:** 25,000.

INTER 1 (Battistini 45)
AS ROMA 1 (Caniggia 66). **Att:** 40,000.

LAZIO 2 (Gascoigne 38, Bergodi 86)
MILAN 2 (Papin 9, Winter 37 o.g.). **Att:** 70,000.

NAPOLI 3 (Ferrara 46, Policano 53, Fonseca 71)
UDINESE 0. **Att:** 45,000.

TORINO 1 (Aguilera 47)
ATALANTA 1 (Codispoti 64). **Att:** 22,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 21

WEEKEND

ATALANTA 2 (Rambaudi 10, Ganz 60)
LAZIO 2 (Gascoigne 29, Signori 74 pen). **Att:** 30,000.

CAGLIARI 3 (M. Paganin 32 o.g., Moriero 46, Cappioli 65)
BRESCIA 1 (Bortolotti 27). **Att:** 20,000.

FOGGIA 1 (Seno 34)
ANCONA 0. **Att:** 11,000.

JUVENTUS 0
INTER 2 (Sosa 18, Shalimov 23). **Att:** 51,671.

MILAN 0
PARMA 1 (Asprilla 58). **Att:** 76,000.

PESCARA 1 (Palladini 49)
GENOA 2 (Iorio 54, Van't Schip 89). **Att:** 13,153.

ROMA 1 (Hassler 60)
NAPOLI 1 (Fonseca 74 pen). **Att:** 52,000.

SAMPDORIA 2 (Jugovic 44, Pioli 94 o.g.)
FIORENTINA 0. **Att:** 30,000.

UDINESE 1 (Sensini 37)
TORINO 0. **Att:**15,000.

SERIE A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	25	17	7	1	54	21	41
Inter	25	12	9	4	42	29	33
Lazio	25	10	9	6	51	37	29
Torino	25	8	12	5	28	21	28
Sampdoria	25	10	8	7	39	34	28
Parma	25	11	6	8	31	26	28
Juventus	25	10	7	8	40	34	17
Atalanta	25	10	7	8	30	32	27
Roma	25	8	10	7	30	24	26
Cagliari	25	10	6	9	26	26	26
Napoli	25	9	6	10	37	35	24
Fiorentina	25	7	8	10	38	41	22
Udinese	25	9	4	12	33	39	22
Foggia	25	7	8	10	26	40	22
Genoa	25	5	11	9	30	43	21
Brescia	25	6	7	12	21	33	19
Ancona	25	5	5	15	32	50	15
Pescara	25	4	4	17	31	54	12

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 28

WEEKEND

ANCONA 0
JUVENTUS 1 (Julio Cesar 79). **Att:** 15,345.

ROMA 2 (Caniggia 23, Mihajlovic 26)
BRESCIA 0. **Att:** 15,000.

FIORENTINA 2 (Batistuta 62, Di Mauro 66)
CAGLIARI 1 (Cappioli 11). **Att:** 0 *(Played behind closed doors).*

GENOA 0
SAMPDORIA 0. **Att:** 40,000.

INTER 2 (Sosa 31, 82)
PESCARA 0. **Att:** 30,000.

LAZIO 4 (Signori 30, 86, Doll 62, Riedle 88)
UDINESE 0. **Att:** 45,000.

NAPOLI 1 (Policano 20)
ATALANTA 0. **Att:** 50,000.

PARMA 4 (Brolin 28, Asprilla 45, Melli 47, A.D. Chiara 58)
FOGGIA 0. **Att:** 23,000.

TORINO 1 (Mussi 2)
MILAN 1 (Gullit 57). **Att:** 35,000.

LEADING SCORERS

1 ..... **Signori** (Lazio) 22
2 ..... **Balbo** (Udinese) 19
3 ..... **Fonseca** (Naples) 15
4 ..... **R. Baggio** (Juventus) 13
5 ..... **Sosa** (Inter) 12
Papin (Milan) 12
Van Basten (Milan) 12
R. Mancini (Sampdoria) 12

Giuseppe Signori

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SOCCER ON TV . . .

SKY SPORTS

REGULAR PROGRAMMES:

SOCCER NEWS — Tuesday 18.00, 22.00, Wednesday 18.00, 22.00 Thursday 18.00, 22.00.
THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW — Tuesday 21.00.
THE BOOT ROOM — Thursday 22.03
SKY SOCCER WEEKEND — Friday 18.00, 23.30, Saturday 11.00.

SATURDAY 1 MAY
06.30 .... NETBUSTERS
10.00 .... THE BOOT ROOM

SUNDAY 2 MAY
10.00 .... GOALS ON SUNDAY
13.30 .... NETBUSTERS
14.00 .... SUPER SUNDAY — PREVIEW SHOW
16.00 .... ASTON VILLA v OLDHAM ATHLETIC — LIVE
18.00 .... SUPER SUNDAY — TALKBACK
23.00 .... SUPER SUNDAY — ASTON VILLA v OLDHAM ATHLETIC

MONDAY 3 MAY
16.00 .... FA PREMIER LEAGUE — ASTON VILLA v OLDHAM ATHLETIC
19.00 .... MANCHESTER UNITED v BLACKBURN ROVERS — LIVE
01.00 .... MANCHESTER UNITED v BLACKBURN ROVERS

TUESDAY 4 MAY
16.00 .... MANCHESTER UNITED v BLACKBURN ROVERS
22.03 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL

WEDNESDAY 5 MAY
09.30 .... THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW

THURSDAY 6 MAY
21.00 .... EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND UP

FRIDAY 7 MAY
07.00 .... EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND UP
17.00 .... THE BOOT ROOM

SATURDAY 8 MAY
10.00 .... THE BOOT ROOM
18.00 .... FA CHALLENGE VASE FINAL

SUNDAY 9 MAY
10.00 .... GOALS ON SUNDAY
14.00 .... SUPER SUNDAY — LIVE

MONDAY 10 MAY
10.00 .... FA PREMIER LEAGUE FOOTBALL
19.00 .... MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL SPECIAL
22.00 .... SOCCER NEWS
01.00 .... MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL SPECIAL

TUESDAY 11 MAY
10.00 .... FA PREMIER LEAGUE FOOTBALL SPECIAL
22.03 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL

WEDNESDAY 12 MAY
10.00 .... THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
11.00 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL

THURSDAY 13 MAY
02.00 .... EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND UP

FRIDAY 14 MAY
10.00 .... THE BOOT ROOM
18.00 .... FA CUP REVIEW
23.00 .... FA CUP REVIEW

SATURDAY 15 MAY
09.30 .... FA CUP REVIEW
19.00 .... FA CUP FINAL — Arsenal v Sheffield Wednesday
24.00 .... FA CUP FINAL

SUNDAY 16 MAY
09.00 .... FA CUP FINAL

MONDAY 17 MAY
19.00 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL

TUESDAY 18 MAY
22.00 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL

WEDNESDAY 19 MAY
08.00 .... THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
09.30 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL
19.00 .... INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL — LIVE — San Marino v Poland
01.00 .... INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL

THURSDAY 20 MAY
21.00 .... EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND UP
22.00 .... THE BOOT ROOM

FRIDAY 21 MAY
07.00 .... THE BOOT ROOM
08.00 .... EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND UP
17.00 .... THE BOOT ROOM
18.00 .... FA CUP FINAL
22.00 .... INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL

SATURDAY 22 MAY
11.00 .... THE BOOT ROOM
24.00 .... AUTOGLASS TROPHY FINAL

SUNDAY 23 MAY
07.00 .... AUTOGLASS TROPHY FINAL
18.00 .... AUTOGLASS TROPHY FINAL

MONDAY 24 MAY
19.00 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL
21.00 .... MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL SPECIAL

TUESDAY 25 MAY
07.00 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL
15.00 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL
24.30 .... THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
01.30 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL

WEDNESDAY 26 MAY
07.00 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL
09.30 .... THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
14.00 .... THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
15.00 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL

THURSDAY 27 MAY
08.00 .... THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
15.00 .... FA PREMIER LEAGUE SPECIAL

FRIDAY 28 MAY
18.00 .... EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND UP

SATURDAY 29 MAY
09.00 .... EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND UP

MONDAY 31 MAY
07.00 .... EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND UP
21.00 .... GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL

EUROSPORT

REGULAR PROGRAMMES:

EUROGOALS MAGAZINE — Monday 22.00, Tuesday 12.00, 15.00

WEDNESDAY 4 MAY
22.00 .... UEFA CUP FINAL — 1st Leg

THURSDAY 6 MAY
11.00 .... UEFA CUP FINAL — 1st Leg
21.00 .... UEFA CUP FINAL — 1st Leg

WEDNESDAY 12 MAY
11.00 .... EUROGOALS MAGAZINE
22.00 .... EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP FINAL At WEMBLEY

THURSDAY 13 MAY
11.00 .... EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP FINAL
21.00 .... 1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

FRIDAY 14 MAY
10.00 .... 1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

WEDNESDAY 19 MAY
11.00 .... EUROGOALS MAGAZINE
22.00 .... UEFA CUP FINAL — 2nd leg

THURSDAY 20 MAY
11.00 .... UEFA CUP FINAL — 2nd leg
21.00 .... 1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

FRIDAY 21 MAY
10.00 .... 1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

SATURDAY 22 MAY
11.00 .... DUTCH CUP FINAL

WEDNESDAY 26 MAY
22.00 .... CHAMPIONS' LEAGUE — THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP FINAL from MUNICH

THURSDAY 27 MAY
8.00 ..... THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP FINAL from MUNICH
22.00 .... 1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

FRIDAY 28 MAY
9.00 ..... 1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

lotto

CROSSWORD

By Christine Ansell

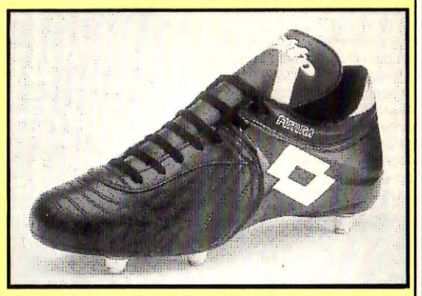
WIN! TO WIN a pair of Lotto Futura boots, fill in this month's crossword and send it to:

***WORLD SOCCER CROSSWORD* (May), 25th floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.**

Last month's solution

Across:
2.Deportivo 6.Spain 7.Mills 9.Ekeren 10.Esch 12.Alki 14.Happel 17.Omagh 18.Dunga 19.Aleinikov

Down:
1.Di Stefano 2.Drake 3.Pancev 4.Roma 5.Islas 8.Schillaci 11.Hajduk 13.Keane 15.Penev 16.Thon



Last month's winner was M. D. Baker, from Bristol, England.

Across

1. ..... Country which hosted the '92 African Nations' Cup finals (7)
7. ..... Keeper in Inter's squad from 1992 (5)
8. ..... Milan's French marksman (5)
9. ..... Much–capped Kiev Dynamo defender formerly with Tblisi (7)
10. .... Nation represented in the '92–93 Champions' Cup by Zhalgiris Vilnius (9)
15. .... Ex–Empoli, Bayern and Cannes forward of Gothenburg and Sweden (7)
18. .... Europe's first World Cup winners (5)
19. .... English–born penalty–taking keeper of Hamrun Spartans fame (5)
20. .... Former Argentine star in charge at West Brom (7)

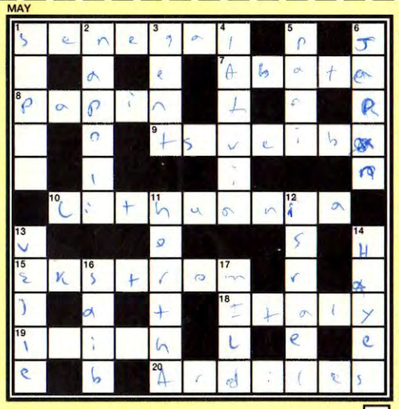
See question 8.

See question 14.

Down

1. .... Montreal's Canadian League side (5)
2. .... Italian League champions, 1987 and 1990 (6)
3. .... Belgium's Jules Ottenstadium club — 1984 domestic Cup winners (4)
4. .... Baltic country where Skonto Riga reign as champions (6)
5. .... Fausto, Sampdoria's '92 Champions' Cup final midfielder (4)
6. .... Annual national venue of the World Club Championship (5)
11. .. Berlin club, champions of 1930–31(6)
12. .. World Cup Group 6 contenders from the Middle East (6)
13. .. Club from mainland Denmark, last champions in 1984 (5)
14. .. Arsenal forward transferred to Celtic in 1990 (5)
16. .. Algerian skipper sold to Auxerre in 1992 (4)
17. .. Hakan, club and country midfield colleague of 15 Across (4)

MAY



Name

Address

Postcode

Country

Photocopies are acceptable. SHOE SIZE

Bossy boots!

Big strides towards more medals

MIDFIELDER Franck Sauzee has the largest pair of boots at Marseille, and he is certainly putting his size 12s to good use this season.

Whether engaged in defence, hitting crisp passes or scoring a hat-trick against CSKA Moscow, Sauzee has excelled in the chase for the Champions' Cup and a fifth consecutive League title.

"Marseille is a tremendous place to play football," he says. "The city and the surrounding region live for soccer. If we became the first French team to win a European trophy, our supporters would be in heaven. I hope we don't disappoint them.

"We have got off to a good start in the Champions League, but we have to keep our feet on the ground. Rangers are likely to be our main rivals for a place in the final, and they are a strong side.

"Although we lost a two-goal lead at Ibrox in November and had to settle for a 2-2 draw, we were encouraged by that result.

"Last season was very frustrating. I was troubled by a persistent calf injury and missed 16 league games. But I did not allow myself to be disheartened and on returning to full fitness I was determined to regain my first-team spot.

"Thoughts of that long spell out spurred me on, and at the moment I think I'm producing the best form of my career."

Sauzee, with his bulky frame and hunched running style, might not be the most graceful or speedy footballer. But over the past five years he has been France's premier midfield anchor and he is a worthy successor to his renowned predecessors, Dominque Bathenay and Luis Fernandez.

Midfield partner Didier Deschamps says: "I get a lot of pleasure from playing with Franck for both Marseille and France. He is a better attacking player than I am. When I win the ball in a tackle, the first thing I do is look to pass to him.

"He is technically very gifted, reads the game well, and is versatile. Franck has played sweeper for club and country on a number of occasions. Besides those qualities, he has a most powerful shot, and is always a threat at free-kicks."

Franck Sauzee was born on October 28, 1965, in Aubenas, a town in the Ardeche region of south-east France. He began his footballing life at local sides La Begude-de-Vals and Montelimar and in July 1983 he was recruited by First Division Sochaux.

He had joined a small-town club famous for developing teenage talent and providing youngsters with early opportunities to experience life as professionals.

"When I arrived at Sochaux, the obvious first step was to become a regular with the reserves," he recalls. "To my surprise, I was selected for the first team within a month.

"At that time six or seven members of the senior squad were out through injury and so the coach, Pierre Mosca, chose me as a substitute for a match at Rouen.. After 30 minutes Jean-Pierre Posca was hurt and I was sent on.

"I was fortunate enough to stay in the team for the rest of the season. It was an extremely luck break for me."

Sauzee impressed, but was later unable to prevent the club's slide through the relegation trapdoor.

Although ambition and lower-grade soccer are not normally compatible, a period of Second Division competition served to boost Sauzee's future prospects. He matured rapidly into a dynamic midfield force, supplied 16 goals to Sochaux's successful promotion push and helped his club to the French Cup Final, where they lost on penalties to Metz.

Nor did the flow of sporting prizes show any sign of drying up. In June 1988 he completed a £2.2 million move to Marseille and two months later he made his international debut.

Sauzee's treasure trove of medals would be augmented too. Marseille achieved a League and Cup double in 1989, and the following season they topped the First Division again. After two years of accomplishment at Marseille, he surprisingly opted to join Monaco in the summer of 1990. While Sauzee explained that he needed "a fresh challenge", certain French football commentators claimed he had left due to a salary dispute.

Whatever the reasons, subsequent events would cause Franck to regret the transfer. All season long he was plagued by a nagging foot complaint and his form inevitably suffered. Meanwhile, his former Marseille team-mates were on the march to another title and a Champions' Cup Final place.

Despite the satisfaction of taking part in Monaco's 1991 Cup Final victory over Marseille, Sauzee had made up his mind to quit Monte Carlo. He wanted to return to Marseille and on the eve of the 1991-92 campaign his wish was granted in a £1.7 million deal.

"I've been a professional for ten years now and that experience is invaluable," he says. "These days I don't feel a lot of pressure. On the pitch I am relaxed and my most important aim is just to enjoy myself."

NICK **BIDWELL**

PRO-FILE

FRANCK SAUZEE

MARSEILLE AND FRANCE.

Born: October 28, 1965 in Aubenas.

Previous Clubs: La Begude-de-Vals, Montelimar, Sochaux, Marseille, Monaco.

Senior Debut: August 1983 (for Sochaux) v Rouen.

International Debut: August 1988 v Czechoslovakia, drew 1-1.

International Caps: 29 (6 goals).

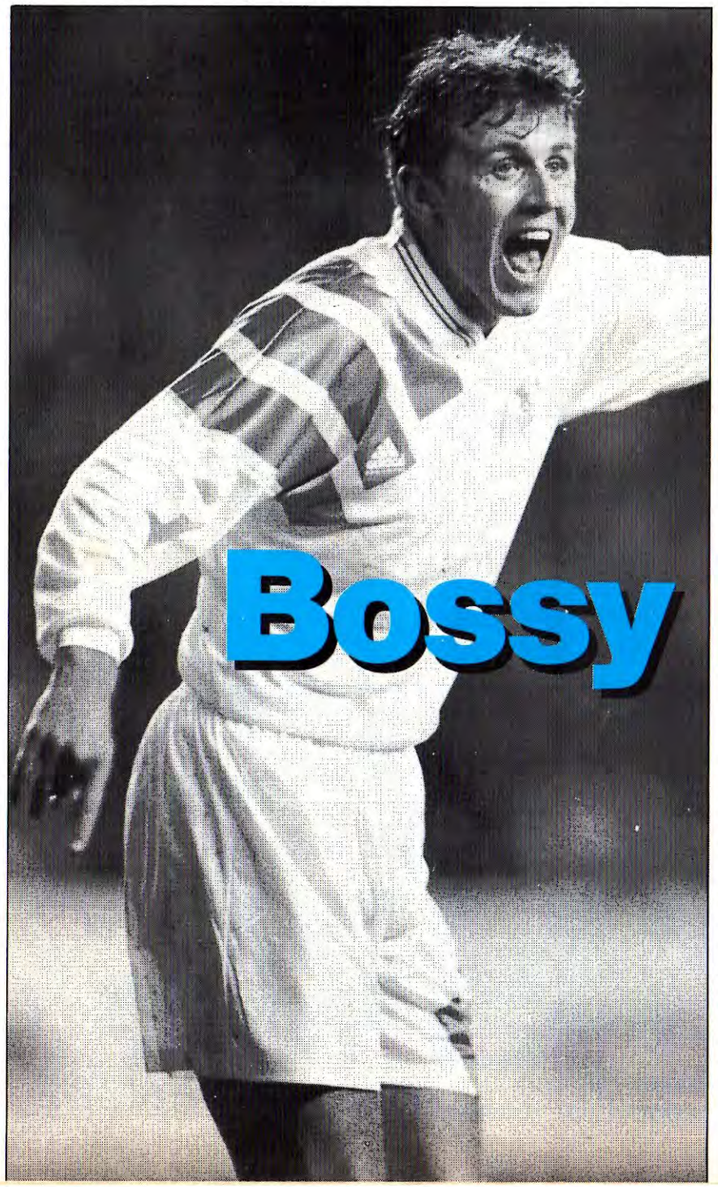
HONOURS

French Championship *(with Marseille)*: 1989, 1990,1992.

French Cup: 1989 *(with Marseille)*, 1991 *(with Monaco)*.

UEFA U-21 Championship: 1988.

'I'm showing the best form of my life'



A new dimension

THAT astonishing win by Paris Saint-Germain over Real Madrid surely puts French football into a new dimension.

True, even the Spaniards had to admit that a 3-1 lead flattered Real in the first leg at the Bernabeu, but a two-goal margin was quite a large one to overturn.

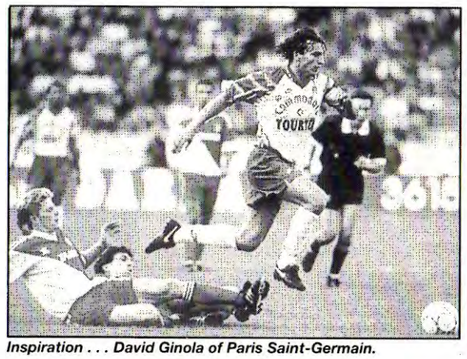
Few finishes can have been more thrilling than this one when, in the final minutes, Real first seemed to have got off the hook as Zamorano scored, only for PSG to hit back with the clinching goal.

All credit to Portugal's Artur Jorge, who next season will be dealing with an embarrassment of riches when the lanky midfield artist, Rai, arrives from Sao Paulo. Valdo, another Brazilian international, is clearly untouchable.

Will George Weah stay, after what has been only his first season? There have been whispers that he would like to move, and his form has been curiously erratic.

For example, the weekend before the return with Real, he had a shocker against Lyon, who held PSG to a disappointing 1-1 draw on the dreadful surface at Parc des Princes.

Note that David Ginola, who scored one of the goals against Real, was one of the best players versus Lyon, while Valdo was one of the worst.



Inspiration . . . David Ginola of Paris Saint-Germain.

Ginola at last has been able to confirm the great promise he showed when outshining even Paul Gascoigne in the Toulon Under-21 tournament some years back.

Ginola was a Toulon player then, and the French team who won the tournament against some strong opposition were virtually a scratch side, by no means representing our full Under-21 strength. Ginola was the inspiration, with his pace, control and imagination.

Jorge and veteran players such as former international winger Daniel Bravo are delighted that the Parc des Princes crowd have finally got behind the team. Before the replay Jorge said that the crowd were a major factor in Real's successes, but he felt the Parisian fans were going the same positive way. So it proved, when PSG achieved their triumph.

When the Bordeaux players heard that their manager, Rolland Courbis, had agreed to stay on next season, they applauded. Many other clubs wanted Courbis, one of those who got into deep waters during the Toulon club scandals.

Friendly . . . Rolland Courbis.

But Courbis's friendly relations with the club's executive, Alain Afflelou, seem to have been decisive.

The news came just before Bordeaux went to Marseille and forced a goalless draw. Now Courbis hopes that one way or another Bordeaux, who have risen from the ashes of the Claude Bez regime, and the consequent, enforced relegation, will find their way into Europe next season.

No doubt that Courbis remains grateful to Afflelou for signing him at the start of this season, against general advice. The club president, that prominent political figure and deputy mayor of Bordeaux, Jacques Chaban-Delmas, also was very keen for Courbis to stay.

In rejecting offers from Marseille, no doubt Courbis bore in mind the dry crack by Raymond Goethals, that Marseille had had the same manager for many years. Meaning of course that though managers came and went, president Bernard Tapie remained in charge.

Quite why Tapie should want to get rid of Goethals, only he, with his endless changes of tack, could tell you. The wily old Belgian has done splendid things with the team he is forever rescuing, but he makes no secret of the fact that he is not as happy as he used to be.

"It's not like the time of Papin, Waddle and Mozer," Frank Sauzee says. And who has more right to express an opinion than the man whose devastating shooting riddled an enfeebled CSKA team in Marseille?

After the previous meetings between the teams, when CSKA clawed their way to a draw after being overrun, did not Goethals say: "Last year, Papin didn't need 36 chances to score."?

In selling Papin to Milan, Tapie knew as well as anything that he was getting rid of an irreplaceable player, even though the Croatian Alen Boksic has done so amazingly well.

Boksic is said to be on the list of players who interest Napoli.

He wants to stay indefinitely, but at Marseille man proposes, Tapie disposes.

ANDRE **DUCLOS**

Erratic . . . George Weah, seen scoring against Real Madrid, may not stay with Paris SG.

RESULTS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 14

WEEKEND

ST ETIENNE 0
MONACO 0. Att: 25,187.

MARSEILLE 0
BORDEAUX 0. Att: 30,000.

PARIS SG 1 (Ricardo 7 pen)
LYON 1 (Garde 66 pen).
Att: 20,000.

LILLE 1 (N'Diaye 57 pen)
NANTES 1 (Loko 50).
Att: 7,000.

STRASBOURG 3 (Farina 38, Leboeuf 63 pen, Bouafia 75)
LE HAVRE 1 (Tiehi 6).
Att: 12,155.

CAEN 2 (Dedebant 33, Gravelaine 81)
AUXERRE 1 (Verlaat 23).
Att: 6,755.

SOCHAUX 1 (Prat 86)
LENS 1 (Omam-Biyik 20).
Att: 2,969.

MONTPELLIER 1 (Der Zakarian 35)
NIMES 0. Att: 11,833.

TOULOUSE 0
METZ 0. Att: 5,945.

VALENCIENNES 3 (Glassmann 23, Burruchaga 39 pen, Dufresne 69)
TOULON 1 (Thys 41). Att: 9,536.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 21

WEEKEND

MONACO 1 (Klinsmann 76)
SOCHAUX 0. Att: 4,000.

NANTES 0
MARSEILLE 2 (Boksic 68, 85).
Att: 37,494.

BORDEAUX 0
ST ETIENNE 0. Att: 35,000.

LENS 2 (Omam-Biyik 55, Hereson 72)
PARIS SG 1 (Ricardo 29 pen).
Att: 17,685.

AUXERRE 2 (Baticle 39, 51)
STRASBOURG 0. Att: 11,000.

LYON 1 (Gava 25)
TOULOUSE 0. Att: 11,975.

NIMES 1 (Cuciuffo 49)
CAEN 2 (Rouissi 72, Paille 81). Att: 6,193.

METZ 1 (Kubik 39 pen)
MONTPELLIER 1 (Divert 61).
Att: 7,792.

LE HAVRE 0
VALENCIENNES 0. Att: 6,459.

TOULON 1 (Brando 3)
LILLE 0. Att: 2,500.

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Monaco	29	16	8	5	38	15	40
Marseille	29	16	8	5	50	28	40
Bordeaux	29	13	11	5	30	16	37
Paris SG	29	13	10	6	48	23	36
Nantes	29	13	9	7	41	28	35
St Etienne	29	10	13	6	22	15	33
Strasbourg	29	10	12	7	46	40	32
Auxerre	29	13	5	11	41	33	31
Lyon	29	8	14	7	31	28	30
Sochaux	29	11	7	11	32	40	29
Caen	29	11	6	12	43	40	28
Metz	29	8	12	9	32	34	28
Montpellier	29	10	8	11	26	29	28
Lens	29	6	14	9	23	36	26
Toulouse	29	5	15	9	23	30	25
Valenciennes	29	7	10	12	33	41	24
Lille	29	5	12	12	17	35	22
Le Havre	29	6	9	14	28	44	21
Toulon	29	3	12	14	19	43	18
Nimes	29	2	13	14	26	51	17

LEADING SCORERS

1 ... **Gravelaine** (Caen) 18
2 ... **Klinsmann** (Monaco) 15
3 ... **Weah** (Paris SG) 14
4 ... **Boksic** (Marseille) 13
..... **Voller** (Marseille) 13
6 ... **Sauzee** (Marseille) 10
..... **Prat** (Sochaux) 10
..... **Leboeuf** (Strasbourg) 10

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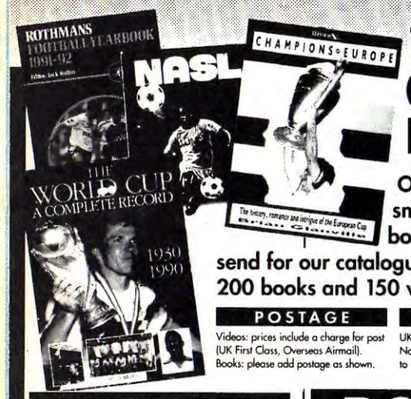

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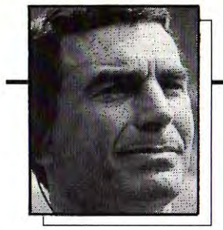


BROOKING TALKBACK

BBC Radio and TV commentator TREVOR BROOKING, the former England midfielder, answers your letters. . .

Berlusconi — talent hoarder

SIR — Consider this. Berlusconi stands trial in a people's tribunal for crimes against football. Principal indictment: conspiring to "warehouse" the creme de la creme of talent for the sole purpose of preventing others from having them.

Absurd? Perhaps it is, but no more so than Berlusconi's insatiable greed. With little exaggeration, his current squad is capable of competing in three European leagues simultaneously, and conceivably winning them!

But is this the limit? Will he be satisfied if he owned the entire Italian League? Spanish? English?

— ZOLA SOOKIAS, New York, USA.

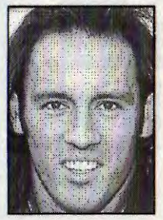
● ***I THINK even Silvio Berlusconi would accept that any club which can spend something like £40 million on new players has an unfair advantage over their competitors.***

I am a great admirer of their style of play, but their dominance of Serie A is worrying, and so there was general relief in March when Parma finally beat them 1–0, and so ended an amazing 58–match unbeaten league run. Incredibly, it was the first such defeat since losing to Bari way back in May 1991. Although money is important I am sometimes mystified as to why players are content to sign for them, knowing they may face a fairly limited quota of appearances.

There can be no real job satisfaction when someone trains all week and then rarely gets the opportunity to test their skills where it matters.

A vital part of their success has been the marvellous talent of the Dutch trio Ruud Gullit, Marco Van Basten and Frank Rijkaard. They were missing through injury for the Parma setback, and I do feel that when they eventually have to find replacements for these stars, the wheel of fortune might not be quite as generous.

The grouse season



SIR — I cannot understand the lack of interest shown by international managers for foreign players in the Scottish Premier League.

We have Snelders (Aberdeen), Huistra (Rangers), Dykstra and Nijholt (Motherwell), and Van Der Hoorn (Dundee United) who should all be included in Holland's squad. Pittman (Dundee) should be a regular in the US team. Coyle (Airdrie) should be playing for Eire, and Rhodes (St Johnstone) deserves a chance for England "B".

And how can England repeatedly ignore Hateley (Rangers, above) is a mystery to most people in Scotland.

— IAN MCKAY, Ayr, Ayrshire.

● ***THE selection of international sides will always cause continual consternation as to the rights and wrongs of the squads chosen, but it would surprise me if managers were not aware of every option available to them. I can understand your frustration over Mark Hateley as he is having an outstanding season at Rangers.***

He can justifiably claim to be unlucky to find himself behind Alan Smith and Les Ferdinand in the queue.

Italian puzzle

SIR — If Italian football is so good, then why did they not qualify for the European Championship and why are they struggling to beat mediocre teams in the World Cup qualifiers?

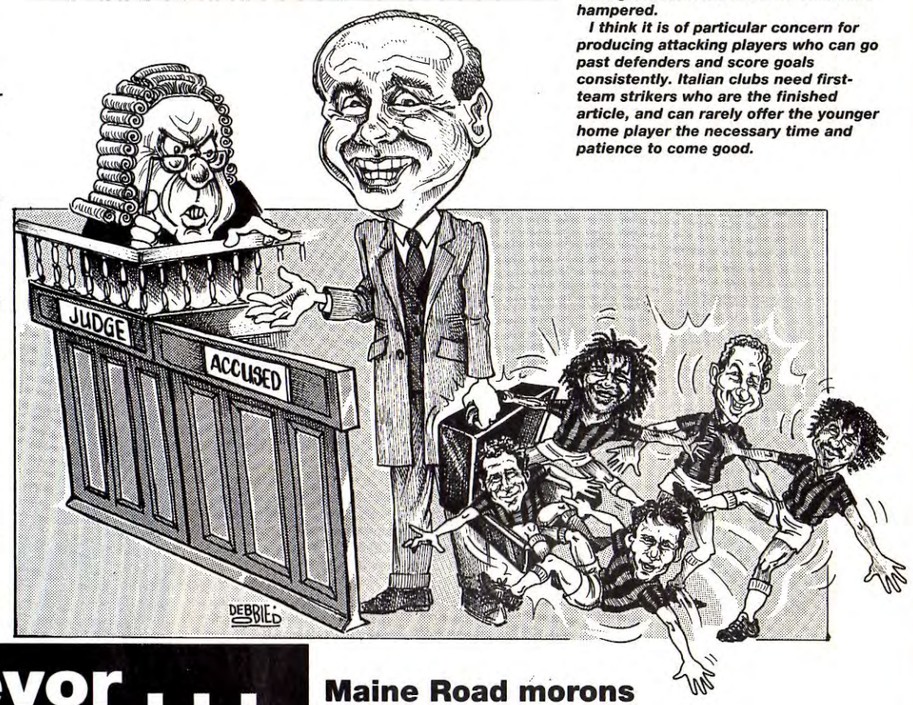
— VINCENT VARNEY, Chiswick, London.

● ***THIS highlights the problem facing the Italian national team, whose results have dropped below their normal formidable standards.***

Italian football in Serie A is exceptional, but primarily because of the cream of talent they import from all parts of Europe.

The financial rewards are so massive they attract the best players and so the skill on offer is totally absorbing. But it does stifle the development and experience available for their home-grown players, and so the flow of quality through to international level has been hampered.

I think it is of particular concern for producing attacking players who can go past defenders and score goals consistently. Italian clubs need first-team strikers who are the finished article, and can rarely offer the younger home player the necessary time and patience to come good.



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● Comments are Trevor Brooking's opinions and do not necessary reflect *WORLD SOCCER'S* views. He will answer only those letters published.

Calls cost UK 36p/minute cheap rate and 48p/minute all other times.

Maine Road morons

SIR — The recent distasteful scenes at Maine Road brought back terrible memories of Hillsborough. If fans cannot accept defeat gracefully then the FA must consider playing ties behind closed doors!

Manchester City's chairman declared "It was the worst day of my life." Most people would echo his sentiments. It seemed as though the City supporters could not stomach the 4-2 scoreline so they spilled onto the pitch trying to get the game abandoned. It's difficult to see what else clubs can do, especially after the Taylor Report.

This isolated incident clearly showed that not all of the sickness of hooliganism has been eradicated!

— NEAL COOK, Cleeve, Avon.

● ***YOUR last sentence sums up the situation perfectly. It has to be emphasised the Maine Road incident was an isolated one, compared to the significant improvement in behaviour at football grounds in recent seasons.***

But it was a timely warning to everyone that there must be no complacency or relaxation in the strict control so necessary in order to maintain the required level of supervision.

One of the key factors in the improvement has been the installation of closed circuit TV at football grounds. This enables identification and prosecution to follow.

The end of Anfield's dominance?

SIR — Liverpool have come in for a lot of stick this season (and rightly so). But most people have a short memory. The club have been No. 1 in England, and among the best in the World, for over a quarter of a century. No other team can approach them for longevity when it comes to titles. But no more.

Sadly, I feel that they will never again be so dominant. Nowadays we celebrate a goal the way we used to cheer a lap of honour! What is your outstanding memory of Anfield, Trevor?

— PETER GOODCHILD, Ainsdale, Merseyside.

● ***I DON'T think they will ever enjoy such dominance again, but I expect them to gradually work their way back towards becoming one of the major clubs always likely to be challenging for trophies.***

I have several memories of Anfield, although the most painful defeat came when my old club, West Ham, decided to operate with three central defenders in an effort to curb the Dalglish-Rush partnership. It was the first time we had tried the system and after 24 minutes, we were already four down. By the final whistle the goal tally was a forlorn 6-0, but I suppose it was the sort of scoreline we would have settled for as we kicked off for the fifth time in the 24th minute.

Points of view

SIR — Here are some points which I believe should be used to better the English game. First a Premier League with 18 clubs, First and Second with 20, and Third made up of two groups — 18 from the north and 18 from the south. There should be a winter break of three weeks as in Germany. The relegation and promotion system remains the same.

There should be two transfer periods. The first in the opening two weeks of July and the second in the winter break. This should allow managers to work with the squads they have and force them into using young players when there are injuries instead of buying.

Finally, Irish, Welsh and Scottish players should be considered as foreigners, with each club having the possibility of employing a total of five foreigners.

— PAUL GRECH, Balzan, Malta.

● ***YOUR restructuring of the leagues look quite acceptable as certainly the Premier League must be a maximum 18. I am not sure about the winter break idea. I reckon most of the bigger clubs would just use it as an excuse to travel and play extra matches to earn additional income.***

The restricted transfer period is another worthwhile idea as it might curtail the endless speculative transfer stories which can affect form and spirit at the different clubs. I am not keen on your suggested limit on British players though, as I reckon there is enough flexibility there at present anyway.

Any club wanting to compete in Europe regularly knows they must gradually strengthen the English content of their squads, and so I think the incentive you ask for is already in place.

Youth debate

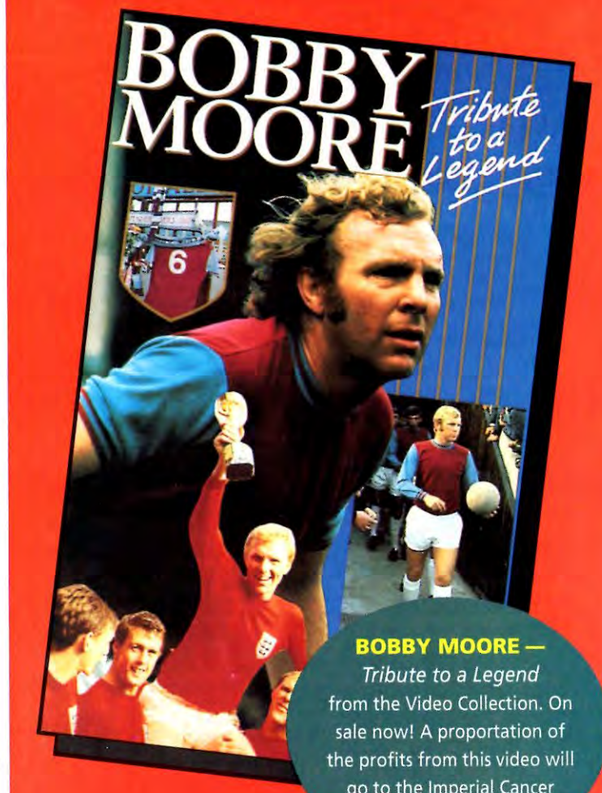
SIR — I am sure you are aware of the noise made about Nick Barmby and others being drafted in to the England set-up for the Junior World Cup. It will be valuable experience for the young men, playing against others of different styles. What is your opinion?

— YINKA OYESANYA, Tooting, London.

● ***AT the start of the season the FA informed clubs they would need the release of players for the World Youth Cup in March and so agreed with the collective reasoning behind that decision.***

Naturally Nick Barmby was an unfortunate loss for Spurs, but so were other talented players like Jamie Pollock, Chris Bart-Williams and Julian Joachim (right). It should have been a marvellous learning experience for everyone but sadly I don't believe that has been the case despite finishing in third place. England's relative success was achieved by a negative, sterile system which stifled any positive creative ideas through a lack of numbers in attacking situations.

All levels of international selection should have a guiding pattern which prepares players for eventual progress up to senior level. The England manager should appoint his own coaches to carry out this structural approach which would bring everyone into a much closer unit.



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Bobby Moore Video Competition, WORLD SOCCER, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS

Closing date Friday 14th May, 1993.

Amateurs set a record and losing boss quits

A BUNCH of amateurs set a record by reaching the German Cup Final — the first time such an event has happened in the competition's 59-year history.

Hertha Berlin beat a Second Division team, Chemnitz, 2-1, and will face Bayer Leverkusen in the final.

Leverkusen won 3-0 away to Eintracht Frankfurt in their semi-final, which led Yugoslav-born Eintracht coach Dragoslav Stepanovic to resign a few weeks earlier than originally planned.

Ironically he is to take over at Leverkusen next season.

Hertha run both professional and amateur sections — as with other clubs the amateurs are eligible to compete in the DfB Cup — and the pro team were relegated to the Second Division in 1991, while the amateurs play in a regional league, usually before gates of around 100.

The semi-final was watched by 56,540, and the final in their home city of Berlin is a 70,000 sell-out.

The team include a tax office clerk, a trainee salesman, an apprentice car mechanic and some students, with the oldest player a mere 23.

Horst Heese is now acting as coach at Eintracht, but Klaus Toppmoller will take over at the end of the season.

Stepanovic said: "I had decided to quit before the semi-final. I didn't want any more media speculation and criticism. "I wanted to bow out with a win, but it wasn't to be."

Surprise winners . . . the Hertha amateurs celebrate their success.

Struggling to set the pace

BAYERN MUNICH continued to set the pace in the Bundesliga without giving wholly convincing performances.

A typical case was the 1-0 home win over their then nearest challengers, Eintracht Frankfurt. After an hour of domination crowned with a goal from Lothar Matthaus, he soon left the field through injury and the Bavarians inexplicably went to pieces.

They were lucky that Eintracht missed chances galore, and Raimond Aumann made a string of world-class saves.

Victory sent the 63,000 crowd at the Olympic stadium home happy, but concerned.

Eintracht lost further ground when they were beaten 3-0 by Borussia Dortmund, who had just reached the UEFA Cup semi-finals by beating Roma.

Swiss striker Stephane Chapuisat, just recovered from a back injury, went on as a substitute for Borussia and scored with virtually the last kick.

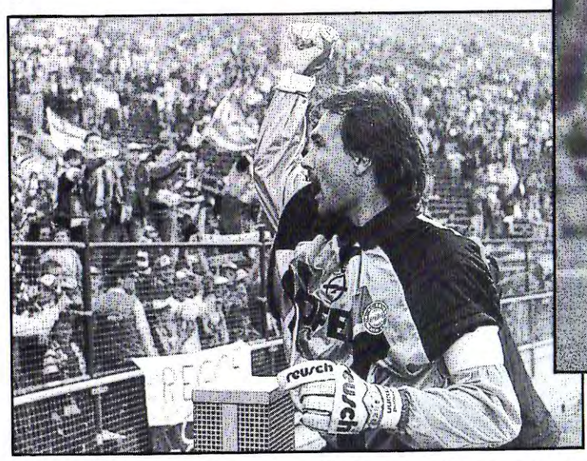
Chapuisat is still being pursued by clubs from Italy, France and Spain and now Holland. Apparently Ajax see him as a replacement for Dennis Bergkamp, who will start next season with Internazionale.

Eintracht's Uwe Bein, now 32, had a pleasant surprise when he was recalled to the national squad after a year's absence. He promptly shelved his plans of trying his luck in the new Japanese J-League.

"Obviously, being in the squad so close to the World Cup puts a different complexion on my situation," he said.

"But I am still in touch with the Japanese, and who knows? Next year I may be ready for them."

Former World Cup winner Pierre Littbarski IS going to Japan. He has signed for JEF United of East Furukawa on a one-year contract that will bring him £650,000. Koln received £320,000 for him . . . and he is now 33.



No go . . . Bein (above) is staying in Germany.

World-class . . . Aumann (left) was in fine form.

As expected Koln fired their team manager, Jorg Berger and replaced him with Wolfgang Jerat, the club's former amateur "trainer".

Jerat now tries to lift the club (first Bundesliga champions in 1964), now fighting relegation.

Strange that Werder Bremen, second in the table, perform to nearly half-empty stands. Despite 12 games without defeat, the average gate at the Weser stadium was just 14,239 — 3,000 fewer than calculated and below the break-even figure. Only Dynamo Dresden, Wattenscheid and Bayer Uerdingen have smaller attendances.

General manager Willi Lemke concedes: "We're not doing enough to attract the fans. This will have to change."

Werder, reigning Cup-winners' Cup holders, now advertise their matches in newspapers, radio and television.

The club also will distribute 500-1,000 tickets to groups of youngsters for 40p on the terraces and £1.60 for a seat. The players will be encouraged to visit fan clubs and mingle with supporters.

In order to reduce expenditure eight clubs are proposing to cut their playing staffs for next season, by a total of 50 professionals. And because of the reduction of the Second Division from 24 to 20 clubs, a further 100 players automatically will become amateurs in the lower league.

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

Kopke is the No.1 keeper

THE German national side continued their preparation for the World Cup in the United States with a laborious 1-0 win in Glasgow.

The Scots fielded almost a "B" side, club engagements, withdrawals and injuries having robbed them of at least seven men who would have made the starting line-up.

Remarkably, Scotland had the better chances and only Andreas Kopke in goal saved his team from what would have been a humiliating defeat. Kopke, No.1 in Germany since the European Championship, was just about the only visitor who could derive some pride from his performance.

Even the winning goal, by Lazio's Karlheinz Rielde, was the result of a rare Scottish defensive mistake. True, the Germans were without Andy Moller and Andreas Thom in attack, but that does not excuse a shoddy performance.

B-B-BARGAINS

ASTON VILLA, title-chasers in the Premier League, have every reason to be happy with the Berlin Wall's demolition.

The breakdown of the old frontier resulted in their finding two bright prospects, Stephan Beinlich and Matthias Breitkreutz, for a bargain £200,000.

Flamboyant manager Ron Atkinson is delighted with the progress of both players and feels that the club will derive full benefit from the deal in the very near future.

Both have been used in Villa's first team, which indicates just how highly they are rated by Atkinson. "We have a couple of talented young players," he says.

"I'm very pleased by their attitude to playing and training. I've no complaints on either score.

"Breitkreutz is a natural footballer but Beinlich has shown a great deal of improvement. He also has the best left foot in the club and he impresses me by his ability to plant crosses so accurately. The bonus for us is that both lads are both going to get better and better."

The Germans, both 21, admit that the biggest difference they have noticed since being signed by Villa is in their lifestyle.

They had grown up under a Communist regime and they did not know anything different.

As promising sportsmen they were given preference over many youngsters of their own age and eventually they progressed to Dynamo Berlin and shared a hostel, where they associated with all sorts of sportsmen in search of excellence.

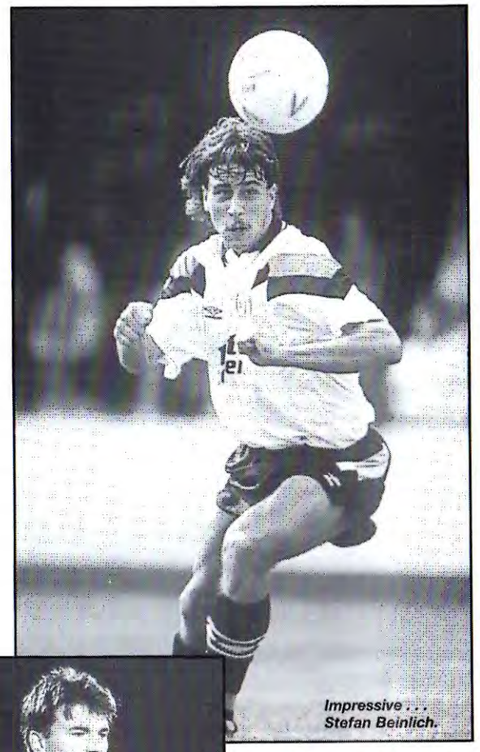
Now they have houses and cars of their own, plus a lifestyle which they did not know existed. Obviously they are more privileged than many people in recession-hit Britain, but this is a situation they have earned from their sporting ability.

Villa spotted the pair playing for Bergman Borsig in Berlin. They were offered trials and performed so well that Atkinson was quick to sign them.

Beinlich said: "In Germany there is no reserve football and this means that you can find yourself without a regular match. Here in Britain we have been able to play regularly, and that helps us to enjoy our game."

In the process they have developed a keen rivalry, because competition for places in the star-studded Villa team is intense. Beinlich so far has had the edge and Breitkreutz feels that this is due to the fact that he is "a little more physical".

Both aspire to playing regularly for Villa but this might not occur in the immediate future as the club strive to attract star names.



Impressive . . . Stefan Beinlich.

Natural . . . Matthias Breitkreutz.

German gamble pays for Villa

Even so, the experience and association with Villa will stand them in good stead when they eventually return to Germany.

Their ambition is to play in the Bundesliga and when this time arrives Villa stand to make a handsome profit on their original £200,000 outlay — a fact which will be appreciated by Atkinson and his chairman, Doug Ellis, who admits that at times he has had slight misgivings about the size of his manager's financial deals.

For Stefan Beinlich and Matthias Breitkreutz the future looks extremely bright as they accumulate experience and wealth which not so long ago appeared to be just a distant dream.

Soccer is an escalator which can transport youngsters to the top of the hill, and the two Germans are living proof of the good side of the game.

BRIAN **MARSHALL**

RESULTS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 14

WEEKEND

EINTRACHT 4 (Andersen 4, 58, Schmitt 13, 82)
WATTENSCHEID 1 (Fink 39).
Att: 18,000.

DYNAMO DRESDEN 0
BAYERN MUNICH 0.
Att: 29,000.

KAISERSLAUTERN 0
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0.
Att: 37,000.

UERDINGEN 1 (Laessig 32)
BORUSSIA MG 3 (Wynhoff 17, Kastenmaier 23, Fach 62). **Att:** 23,000.

SCHALKE 2 (Anderbruegge 45 pen, Senscheid 80)
SAARBRUCKEN 2 (Savitchev 43, Kraetzer 83).

BOCHUM 2 (Heinemann 8 pen, Christians 45)
WERDER BREMEN 0.
Att: 20,500.

KARLSRUHE 1 (Kiriakov 8)
STUTTGART 1 (Buck 87). **Att:** 33,000.

LEVERKUSEN 2 (Stover 16, Kirsten 84)
NURNBERG 1 (Eckstein 73). **Att:** 14,000.

HAMBURG 3 (Eck 9, Von Heesen 68, 90)
KOLN 0. **Att:** 20,450.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 21

WEEKEND

BAYERN MUNICH 3 (Ziege 13, Wohlfart 81, Schupp 83)
KOLN 0. **Att:** 38,000.

WATTENSCHEID 2 (Moser 26, Tschiskale 44)
DYNAMO DRESDEN 1 (Ratke 35). **Att:** 5,000.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 3 (Zorc 77, Falkenmaier 86 o.g, Chapuisat 90)
EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 0.
Att: 43,000.

BORUSSIA MG 2 (Kastenmaier 31, 45)
KAISERSLAUTERN 2 (Woiteczk 26, W. Funkel 38). **Att:** 28,000.

LEVERKUSEN 1 (Fischer 14)
HAMBURG 1 (Rohde 38).
Att: 17,000.

SAARBRUCKEN 3 (Kostner 37, Savitchev 45, Fuhl 70)
UERDINGEN 3 (Adler 35, Passlack 44, Walz 82). **Att:** 18,000.

NURNBERG 0
KARLSRUHE 0. **Att:** 34,300.

WERDER BREMEN 2 (H. Herzog 11, Eilts 36)
SCHALKE 0. **Att:** 24,154.

VfB STUTTGART 4 (Kogl 5, F. Walter 31, Buchwald 60, Knup 17)
BOCHUM 1 (Klaub 89). **Att:** 18,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 28

WEEKEND

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 1 (Schmitt 62)
BORUSSIA MG 3 (Dahlin 52, Klinert 56, Kastenmaier 87). **Att:** 26,000.

DYNAMO DRESDEN 3 (Jaehning 6, Zickler 49, 83)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0.
Att: 17,100.

KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Golbaek 77)
SAARBRUCKEN 1 (Savitchev 22).
Att: 17,500.

KOLN 3 (Fuchs 77, 86, Sturm 89)
WATTENSCHEID 0. **Att:** 33,000.

UERDINGEN 0
WERDER BREMEN 2 (Rufer 35, 87).
Att: 10,100.

SCHALKE 1 (Anderbruegge 34)
VfB STUTTGART 0. **Att:** 25,000.

VfL BOCHUM 4 (Wegmann 1, Herrmann 29, Aden 35, 76)
NURNBERG 0. **Att:** 17,500.

KARLSRUHE 1 (Kiriakov 14)
LEVERKUSEN 1 (Woerns 24).
Att: 167,500.

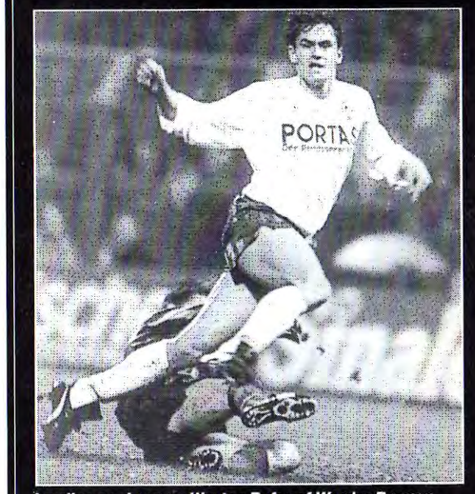
HAMBURG 3 (Von Heessen 23, Furtok 70, Eck 80)
BAYERN 1 (Jorginho 86). **Att:** 60,500.

BUNDESLIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	23	13	8	2	46	25	34
Werder Bremen	23	12	8	3	39	21	32
Ein. Frankfurt	23	11	8	4	41	28	30
Bor. Dortmund	23	12	5	6	40	28	29
Leverkusen	23	8	11	4	45	29	27
Karlsruhe	23	9	7	7	42	41	25
Kaiserslautern	23	9	5	9	36	27	23
Stuttgart	23	7	9	7	33	34	23
Hamburg	23	5	12	6	31	28	22
Borussia Mg	23	7	8	8	36	40	22
Nurnberg	23	9	4	10	21	30	22
Saarbrucken	23	5	11	7	35	40	21
Schalke	23	6	9	8	21	29	21
Dyn. Dresden	23	6	8	9	27	33	20
Wattenscheid	23	6	6	11	30	44	18
Koln	23	8	1	14	30	39	17
VfL Bochum	23	4	7	12	28	37	15
Bayer Uerdingen	23	3	7	13	21	49	13

LEADING SCORERS

1 ..... **Rufer** (Werder Bremen) 12
Kirsten (Leverkusen) 12
F. Walter (Stuttgart) 12
4 ..... **Kiriakov** (Karlsruhe) 10
Yeboah (Frankfurt) 10
Witeczek (Kaiserslautern) 10
Thom (Leverkusen) 10
Chapuisat (Dortmund) 10
9 ..... **Wegmann** (Bochum) 9
10 ..... **Krieg** (Karlsruhe) 9



Leading goal-scorer Wynten Rufer of Werder Bremen.

Anderlecht again

Champions by a mile

ANDERLECHT are champions of Belgium for the 22nd time, and by a record distance.

They outstripped all competition when they still had six matches to play — and they also are in the semi-final of the Belgian Cup.

They did it despite the upheaval caused by the dismissal of their Yugoslav coach, Luka Peruzovic, in January.

His style, "realistic football", was unacceptable to the president, Constant Vandenstock, whose pride was hurt when fans jeered the team even though they were winning.

So Peruzovic went, to be succeeded by Jan Boskamp, usually known as Johan, a 45-year-old Dutchman who had been coaching at Second Division Kortrijk. Boskamp says that when he was asked to go to Brussels for an interview, he scoured the area looking for TV cameras, because he was afraid he was the victim of a Candid Camera type of programme.

"I could not believe it," he said. "Anderlecht were six points clear at the time. Nobody sacks a coach when six points clear. Then, when I realised it was not a hoax, I signed as quickly as possible before they changed their mind.

"I would have joined Anderlecht for five weeks, or even five days."

Since then Anderlecht have won match after match, and Boskamp has been rewarded with a new contract.

His only problem appears to concern defender Philippe Albert, current Player of the Year in Belgium.

Several players and many fans have been disappointed with Albert's attitude in recent months. He was even suspended for six weeks for spitting at an opponent.

Anderlecht can complete the double if they beat Charleroi in the Cup semi-final and then defeat the winners of the other match, between Standard and Waregem.

Elsewhere in Belgium, Ghent followed Anderlecht's example by sacking a Belgian coach Rene Vandereycken, and replacing him with a Dutchman, Hans Dorjee, formerly coach of PSV and Feyenoord.

Dorjee's first successful task was to persuade former PSV striker Erik Viscaal to sign a new four-year contract.

JAN HERMEN **DE BRUIJN**

Suspended . . . Philippe Albert's attitude has upset his many admirers.

AUSTRIA

Olaf attracts

AUSTRIAN fans looking forward to the resumption of the championship after the winter break were bitterly disappointed when the whole programme was wiped out due to snow and ice.

Ironically enough the January and February weather was good for football, but in March it worsened. Most clubs were unable even to organise training sessions. The chaotic situation upset international plans, with five games scheduled within ten weeks.

When the restart was made, a week late, Wacker Innsbruck surprised even their most ardent fans by beating Wiener Sportklub 5-0 and took over at the top.

They were soon brought down to earth and overtaken by Austria Salzburg, chasing their first title.

In Vienna the old Prater stadium, now renamed the Ernst-Happel-Stadion in memory of the recently deceased manager, staged a double-header, Admira Wacker against Rapid Vienna followed by FK Austria v Salzburg.

Admira's German striker Olaf Marschall is now second in the scoring list behind the Czech Vaclav Danek of Innsbruck with 14 goals, and is being watched by VfB Stuttgart.

Most clubs are short of money. Gates are poor, television and sponsors are reluctant to raise their contributions, and the sale of players, preferably abroad, seems to be the only way for even the top clubs to make some cash.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Setters struggles

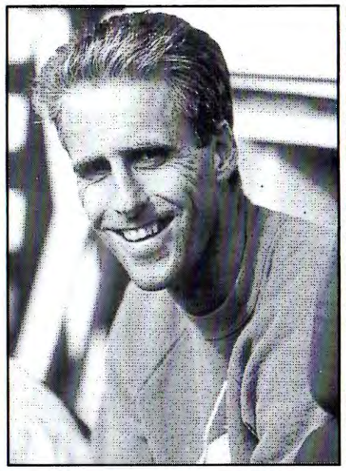
MAURICE SETTERS is not doing his chances of succeeding Jack Charlton any good with his record in charge of the Irish Under-21 team.

They have won only five games in his seven years in charge. And against Germany in Baunatal they were beaten 8-0, a record defeat for the Republic at any level.

Manager Charlton says he will quit when he is no longer wanted in Ireland, but when that will be is anybody's guess.

Assistant Setters hardly seems a good bet to follow him.

Charlton still goes on in his remarkable way, with his team's recent 3-0 win over Northern Ireland the latest feather in his personal cap.



Problems . . . Mick McCarthy has been having a difficult time recently.

The Republic have now won all their seven World Cup games at Lansdowne Road under his management, without conceding a goal.

When Charlton does go he is likely to be replaced by a former Irish international, with Liam Brady, Frank Stapleton and Mick McCarthy among the forerunners at this stage.

McCarthy, the Republic's captain at the 1990 World Cuop in Italy, has not retired from international football, but has not played for the Republic since June, has not been able to get into his own Millwall team this season, and recently was sent off in a reserve match.

Former Irish manager Eoin Hand, out of a job since quitting at Huddersfield last season, is favourite to take over from Noel O'Mahony as manager of Cork City.

Pat Keane's move from Cobh Ramblers to Cambridge United has been put on hold. Keane, younger brother of Forest's Roy, has returned to Ireland for an ankle operation.

SEAN **CREEDON**

HOLLAND

Big Three must look ahead

HOLLAND'S Big Three, Ajax, Feyenoord and PSV, will spend the summer planning for the future.

All three are certain to be in one of the European competitions next season, but that will not be full compensation for a disastrous European effort this time around.

Ajax, holders of the UEFA Cup, lost in the quarter-final to Auxerre and Feyenoord went out at the same stage of the Cup-winners' Cup, against Moscow Spartak.

But PSV's atrocious run in the Champions League hit Holland hardest. Losing to Milan is one thing, but losing twice to the Swedish semi-professionals of IFK Gothenburg (3-1 and 3-0) is unbelievable for a team with so many big names.

The feeling is that at club level the Dutch did not do their homework. So, individual mistakes apart, they did not seem to get their tactics right.

PSV have the biggest problems. Their performances have cost them a lot of money, so a trip to the transfer market to try to snap up a couple of internationals is virtually impossible.

They did, however, manage to persuade Mechelen to part with their 23-year-old Swedish international midfielder, Klas Ingesson, for around £1 million.

Another problem facing PSV is that five of their first-team players are in their thirties. Adri Van Tiggelen, Hans Van Breukelen, Berry Van Aerle, Erwin Koeman and Wim Kieft will be difficult to replace.

PSV are not planning a big clear-out, but they need new players and have never been able to produce as many good youngsters as they would like.

A couple of years ago some people blamed coach Bobby Robson for PSV's problems. Now Hans Westerhof is facing the same problems.

Westerhof is not one to blame other people. But he appears to hit the nail on the head when he says: "Yes, we have a lot of individual talent, but soccer is a team game, and getting all of our players to fight and work for each other is not easy."

PSV are likely to cut their squad to save money, and run a new bonus system ensuring that players earn only what they deserve, with salaries based on League points and Cup stages.

Feyenoord have almost solved the financial troubles that have been with them over the past three years, but are not in the big financial league.

With the addition of John Van Loen, who will qualify for European games next season, they believe they have a squad they can work on.

Ajax are now the club with the happiest of treasurers. They have millions in the bank, with the sales of Dennis Bergkamp and Wim Jonk bringing in more money than most clubs can expect to get over ten years, and a lot of good youngsters developing.

Veteran . . . PSV's Van Tiggelen.

Modest Ed is No.1

HIS NAME is Ed de Goey. He is 26, goalkeeper for Feyenoord and Holland. And that's the way it could stay for a few more years.

Dutch manager Dick Advocaat said it all: "De Goey is my No. 1 keeper. Stanley Menzo of Ajax is No. 2, and Theo Snelders of Aberdeen is No. 3."

True, Snelders was No. 2 against San Marino because Menzo had been dropped by his club, but Holland did not need a keeper that day.

De Goey is a quiet, modest person who says: "Of course I'm proud to be keeping goal for my country and I'd love to stay in that position for a few more years.

"But I've got to keep on playing well otherwise the manager will choose another goalkeeper.

"People often ask how different it is to be in the national team. I tell them I'm the same person who plays for Feyenoord. If I changed my way of life or even thought differently I would be a much worse person."

Most insiders in Dutch football believe that De Goey will establish himself as the definite replacement for Hans Van Breukelen.

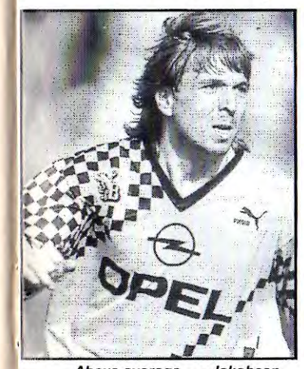
Quiet talker, maybe, but in the games he has played for Holland so far he has shown the rest of the world the talent in his hands and in his football thinking.

ERIC **NICHOLLS**

Proud . . . De Goey hopes to stay at the top for several years to come.

SWITZERLAND

Trumpfler's trump cards



Above average . . . Jakobsen.

YOUNG BOYS carried on where they left off when the Swiss championship play-off phase got under way at the end of February.

Behind the scenes the talk is of horrendous financial problems and worries over the long-term existence of the club, founded in 1898, but on the field the team make headlines. After three matches without a goal conceded, and including a superb 4-0 win over Neuchatel Xamax, manager Martin Trumpfler's team are being portrayed as a model of consistency.

Attacking midfielders Georges Bregy and Bent Christensen and the other "legionaires" John-Ivar Jakobsen (Norwegian) and Piotr Nowak (Polish) produced above-average performances.

Jakobsen says: "Everything in this team fits neatly into place. Up front we have fun and score goals."

Uli Stielike, manager of Xamax, says: "I wouldn't be surprised if the Berner win the title. But they shouldn't count their chickens. Injuries and suspensions could upset any team."

The country's biggest and most successful outfit, Grasshopper, for the first time demoted to the relegation pool, also are making news.

Three games, three wins and a goal tally of 13-0 mean almost certain retention of a place in the First Division next season. The "Hoppers" play in Group I from which two clubs stay up. Their biggest rivals are Basel and Luzern.

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

ICELAND

Favourites for a change

THE World Cup qualifying game against Luxembourg on May 20 will be a big test for Iceland's national side as well as manager Asgeir Eliasson.

After the surprise 2-1 win over Hungary abroad last June, it's been a struggle for Eliasson and his team.

Sadly the disappointing defeat by Greece in Reykjavik last October almost certainly ended the hopes of qualifying for US '94.

Now that Iceland have played four games for only two points it is clear that Greece and Russia are the favourites.

In a group of only five nations the top two will make their way to the US, but Iceland's big dream is over. Even so, they can have a say in the outcome. After the win over Hungary last year there are good chances for the return in Reykjavik in June. The game with Russia, in the same month, will be a struggle.

But the big thing at the moment is the Luxembourg tie.

It is very important that the Icelandic players prove they can win a match when starting as favourites — something that does not happen often to a small nation.

BJORN **HRAFNSSON**

FINLAND

HJK need a striker

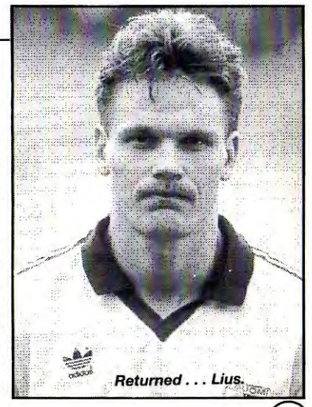
THE Champions, HJK Helsinki, prepare for the new season searching for a forward to replace last season's top scorer, Ismo Lius, who has returned to Kuusysi Lahti.

"We create enough chances, but we need someone who can put the ball away," says coach Jari-Pekka Keurulainen.

FF Jaro, along with MyPa and Kuusysi, are among the favourites to win the title. A lot also is expected of FC Jazz, even though Brazilian Luiz Antonio will not be returning to Finland this summer.

There is only one English coach in the top division — Keith Armstrong at Rovaniemi.

PENTTI **HIETANEN**



Returned . . . Lius.

MALTA

Floriana return to form

FLORIANA recovered to get back on the winning trail after two consecutive slips.

A 3-1 win over troubled Sliema Wanderers and a 5-1 defeat of Birkirkara consolidated their supremacy at the top and moved them nearer to their 25th championship.

Much of the credit goes to Irish striker Brian Crawley (right) — back after suspension — who scored five goals in the two games, taking his total to 10.

A thrilling 2-2 draw, between Valletta and Hamrun helped Floriana to extend their lead.

Brian Talbot's first season as manager of Hibernians seems to have worked out well. After figuring in a 2-2 draw against Hamrun, Hibs finished off Rabat Ajax and Valletta, 5-2 and 5-0, to bounce into second spot.

Danish striker Karl Zacchau scored six times in the process.

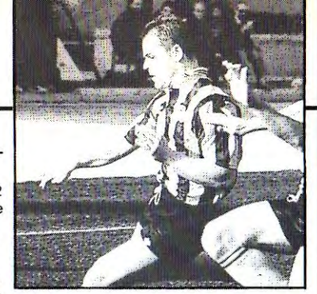
Valletta seem to be going through troubled waters. The disastrous defeat by Hibs meant the Citizens had no chance of keeping the title they won last season.

A 4-2 defeat by Rabat Ajax sent Mellieha reeling back into the Second Division, but reshuffled St. George's still live to fight on.

Coach Pippo Psaila's national squad crashed 6-1 under an avalanche of Italian pressure in a World Cup qualifier played in Palermo.

Not entirely surprising, perhaps, but Psaila was disappointed: "The score could have been much better for us. We did not come here to lose by such a margin."

DOMENICO **AQUILINA**



PORTUGAL

Back in the running

PORTUGAL revived their World Cup hopes with a display of skill and courage which surprised even their own fans.

Coach Carlos Queiroz took an injury-ravaged squad to Bern to play group leaders Switzerland with dreams fast fading after the 3-1 home defeat by Italy. His patched-up team responded so positively to the pressure that instead of forcing a 1-1 draw they might even have snatched both points.

Paulo Futre, probably the most technically gifted European forward of the era, was the outstanding attacker; Oceano marked in-form Stephane Chapuisat virtually out of the game; stand-in left-back Jose Semedo raided to such great effect down the flank that he popped in the equaliser, a couple of minutes after Chapuisat had headed Switzerland in front.

Portugal's defenders were not happy about that goal. Adrian Knup appeared to pull Jorge Costa out of the line of the cross to provide Chapuisat with a "free" far-post header.

In the second half Portugal's busy midfielders forced schemer Georges Bregy deeper and deeper until the attacking effort was restricted to long balls forward, Wimbledon-style.

No wonder Queiroz was delighted. This result gives Portugal new hope of making up ground — especially if they can capitalise on their new-found spirit and beat Scotland at home on April 28.

Back in Lisbon, the national derby, Benfica v Sporting, attracted only 30,000 to the Stadium of Light (capacity 120,000) because the whole thing was on TV. Everybody knows that Benfica sold the rights to TV coverage in their stadium against the funds needed to buy Paulo Futre from Atletico Madrid.

Now they have Futre, but the great show lacks its main content — the crowds. And Lisbon football without the crowds is not football.

The match was a rather good one, and Futre scored the only goal.

Bobby Robson, Sporting's coach, said: "Benfica played very well. They always controlled the ball and created many chances. Futre and Joao Pinto are true class players."

Benfica, however, lost in the UEFA Cup to Juventus, a game that should have been won, and FC Porto, three points clear in the League are still not showing signs of tiredness or of any internal crisis.

This creates despair in Lisbon.

Internationally, we would have liked to see Porto showing something of their old spark, but in the current Champions League the best they have been able to get was a draw at home to PSV, against three defeats. This is not good enough.

Robson's chances of winning the league title are now practically none. But he did not come to this country to "give" championships to his club. He came primarily to change the pattern, to reorganise, to apply a new structure.

Surprisingly enough, people seem to have understood all this, which is why Robson's prestige, against the odds, is so high.

The championship will be virtually decided on April 18, when Porto visit the Stadium of Light.

If they win, the whole show will be over. If Benfica triumph and put themselves within a point of the champions, the drama will last to the very end.

Struggling Salgueiros have sacked coach Zoran Filipovic, after six successive defeats, and replaced him with Mario Reis.

ALBERTO **DA SILVA**

True class . . . Futre in action against Switzerland.

ISRAEL

Betar getting better

BETAR JERUSALEM are in an excellent position to capture the title in their first season back in Israel's top division.

They led champions Maccabi Tel Aviv by six points, with only seven games to go.

A crushing 5-0 win away to fourth-placed Bnei Yehuda was followed by a 4-0 demolition of third-placed Hapoel Beersheba.

The backbone of the team's success is former Torpedo Moscow midfielder Vladimir Greshnayev.

He, with the club's other Russian import, defender Sergei Travtayuk, and find-of-the-season Ronen Harazi, have been in tremendous form.

Coach Dror Kashtan also has kept faith with youngsters Tomer Azulay, Shmulik Levy and Eitan Mizrahi in his push for a remarkable successive Second and First Division crowns.

Off the pitch, Betar's magnificent support has given Israeli football just the kind of lift it needed after the national team's disappointing showing in the World Cup qualifiers.

Every home game at the impressive Teddy stadium in the capital is a 12,000 sell-out with at least 7,000 fans travelling to away games.

Maccabi Tel Aviv, well below last season's championship form, are the only team who can catch Betar, but barring any surprises from here on the title seems certain to return to Jerusalem for the first time in six years.

National team coach Shlomo Scharf was given the backing of the IFA's committee, who sat to review the squad's dismal World Cup performances. Lack of fitness and lack of European experience were claimed to be the main factors behind the poor results.

Visits to Bulgaria, Sweden and Finland follow this summer, and in a warm-up game, the team drew 2-2 with Russia. Both goals came from the League's top scorer, Alon Mizrahi of Bnei Yehuda.

MARK **RIVLIN**

TABLES

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bohemians	29	11	14	4	42	18	36
Shelbourne	29	13	10	6	50	28	36
Cork City	29	14	8	7	42	31	36
Dundalk	29	11	13	5	33	27	35
Derry City	29	10	15	4	24	20	35
Limerick	29	6	15	8	27	24	27
Group B							
St Patrick's	29	7	16	6	27	24	30
Drogheda Utd	30	6	13	11	27	39	25
Shamrock	29	7	10	12	37	34	24
Sligo Rovers	29	5	13	11	15	30	23
Waterford Utd	29	8	6	15	30	57	22
Bray Wanderers	30	4	13	13	17	40	21

LEAGUE OF WALES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cwmbran	33	22	9	2	60	20	75
Inter Cardiff	33	23	4	6	74	32	73
Aberystwyth T	31	20	3	8	68	41	63
Bangor City	31	16	5	10	66	48	53
Ebbw Vale	31	15	7	9	63	53	52
Holywell Town	31	14	7	10	57	41	49
Haverfordwest	29	14	5	10	52	42	47
Conwy Utd	31	12	8	11	40	42	44
Connah's Quay	29	13	4	12	54	54	43
Mold Alexandra	29	13	2	14	51	55	41
Afan Lido	29	11	7	11	52	53	40
Caersws	31	10	9	12	50	53	39
Llanelli	29	10	7	12	42	47	37
Porthmadog	31	8	11	12	48	46	35
Briton Ferry	31	9	8	14	55	73	35
Maesteg Park	31	7	10	14	38	47	31
Flint Town Utd	32	7	6	19	36	60	27
Abergavenny	33	6	7	20	33	66	25
Llanidloes Town	31	5	9	17	38	70	24

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Panathinaikos	26	19	4	3	65	13	61
AEK	26	18	6	2	59	21	60
OFI	26	15	6	5	48	23	51
Olympiakos	26	14	7	5	49	23	49
Heraklis	26	13	7	6	41	31	46
PAOK	26	12	5	9	41	32	41
Aris Salonika	26	11	5	10	33	30	38
Athinaikos	26	8	11	7	24	27	35
Xanthi	26	8	7	11	42	49	31
Apollon	26	9	4	13	21	37	31
Larissa	26	7	8	11	22	29	29
Doxa Drama	26	7	8	11	26	43	29
Panachaiki	26	7	7	12	28	35	28
Edessiakos	26	7	6	13	32	51	27
Ionikos	26	6	6	14	24	39	24
Kalamaria	26	4	11	11	21	36	23
Corinthos	26	4	8	14	21	46	20
Pierikos	26	4	6	16	21	53	18

ISRAEL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Betar Jerusalem	26	17	4	5	48	30	55
Mac. Tel Aviv	26	14	7	5	55	30	49
Bnei Yehuda	26	13	4	9	48	45	43
Hap. Beersheba	26	11	7	8	36	32	40
Mac. Haifa	26	10	9	7	44	31	39
Hap. Haifa	26	11	6	9	36	30	39
Hap. Tel Aviv	26	9	6	11	41	46	33
Mac Petah Tikva	26	7	10	9	35	40	31
Mac. Netanya	26	8	6	12	29	50	30
Hap. Holon	26	8	4	14	33	41	28
Bet. Tel Aviv	26	6	5	15	25	49	23
Hap. Petah Tikva	26	6	4	16	32	37	22

MALTA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Floriana	15	11	2	2	29	11	24
Hibernians	15	8	3	4	39	24	19
Valletta	15	8	3	4	24	21	19
Hamrun Sptns	14	8	2	4	35	19	18
St. Andrew's	14	6	4	4	35	23	16
Sliema Wand.	15	6	2	7	23	25	14
Rabat Ajax	15	5	3	7	23	31	13
Birkirkara	15	5	3	7	19	28	13
St. George's	15	2	3	10	15	35	7
Melliena	15	2	1	12	12	37	5

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Besiktas	23	15	7	1	55	18	52
Fenerbahce	23	15	4	4	60	25	49
Galatasaray	23	15	4	4	49	19	49
Kocaelispor	23	14	6	3	50	21	48
Trabzonspor	23	13	8	2	41	19	47
Bursaspor	23	10	5	8	33	31	35
Sariyer	23	8	5	10	32	33	29
Ankaragucu	23	8	4	11	34	41	28
Genclerbirligi	23	7	7	9	27	39	28
Gaziantepspor	23	7	5	11	26	38	26
Kayserispor	23	5	8	10	20	31	23
Altay	23	6	4	13	21	36	22
Karsiyaka	23	4	8	11	25	47	20
Bakirkoyspor	23	5	4	14	29	41	19
Aydinspor	23	4	6	13	15	39	18
Konyaspor	23	1	9	13	25	64	12

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0891 400803 You will be asked for your name, address, postcode, age, which signed shirt you would prefer to win and chest and shoe sizes.

Closing date for calls is Monday 17th May.*Calls cost 36p/minute cheap rate and 48p/minute at all other times.

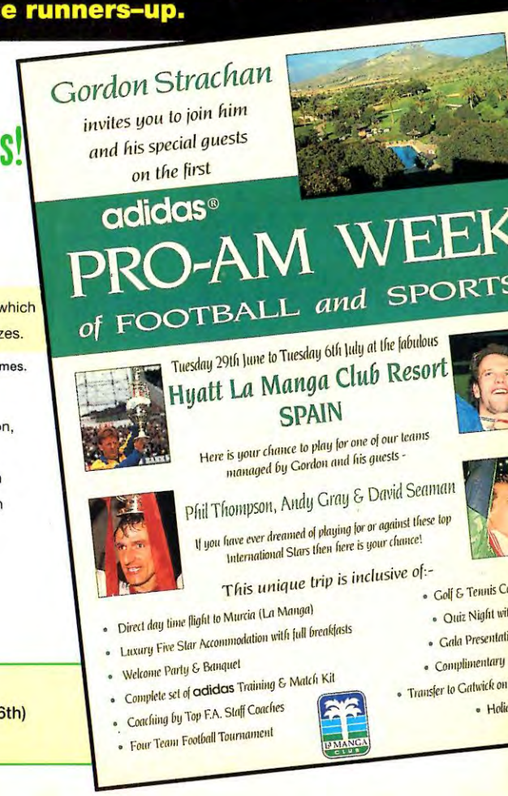
QUESTION

Says Gordon: "Among the other star coaches travelling to La Manga are Phil Thompson, Andy Gray and David Seaman. "But how much do you know about them?

(A) with which club did Phil end his playing career in 1985... **(B)** Andy scored the winning goal for which club in the 1980 League Cup Final against Nottingham Forest and **(C)** Before joining Arsenal, David won promotion to the First Division in 1985 with which club?"

Overseas readers can enter by writing in to:
ADIDAS COMPETITION, WORLD SOCCER, KING'S REACH TOWER, STAMFORD STREET, LONDON SE1 9LS before Monday 17th May.

Good luck!
And if you want to know more about the fantasy week in La Manga (June 29th – July 6th) phone Richard Lemmer or Donna Smallwood on **081 397 4411.**



CZECH REPUBLIC

Slovan challenge is fading

SPARTA are the likely champions of the Czech Republic, with Slovan's challenge fading and Dunajska Streda and Slavia not consistent enough to be any real threat.

Dukla continue to struggle at the foot of the table, losing to visiting Inter after leading 1-0 on a weather-affected Sunday. Fewer than 300 spectators were present.

The return of the snow wiped out half of the programme, and only Hradec Kralove of the other Bohemian clubs made any progress, defeating Brno (now FC Boby) 2-1.

League fixtures are badly behind schedule and so is the Czecho-Slovak campaign for a place in the United States. The point dropped to Cyprus could be very costly.

The team next face Wales in Ostrava, the "Czech Sheffield" and not a very welcoming place. Manager Macala may have difficulty motivating the players, especially those based abroad, for a national team soon to go out of existence and rather up against it when current goal differences are compared.

For the moment Group 4 remains a four-horse race but the spring could end the challenge of Czechs and Slovaks combined.

BOB **VAUGHAN**

Difficulty . . . Macala.

SLOVAKIA

Not quite a first

WHILE Slovaks continue to play in the Combined Team, the new Federation in Bratislava have been busy arranging the independent Republic's first international, and rather jumping the gun.

Tuesday March 30 should have been the big day, but neither UEFA nor FIFA was happy about the "first ever" being in Dunajska Streda.

The SFA were told to wait until full ratification next season and the end of the Czecho-Slovak World Cup qualifying programme.

Unfortunately, for the new men in Bratislava, the opposition, the Lithuanian national team, already had arrived for this first Slovak full international. Eventually they played a "Slovak FA XI" and drew 2-2.

Whether the opening match as a full sovereign state will be the first official international at "A" level is a moot point.

Several games were played when Slovakia was detached from Hitler's Protectorate, and Germany's last international in 1942, before a break of exactly eight years in Sepp Herberger's reign, was against the Slovaks in Bratislava.

The latest representative game was watched by 5,000 spectators, on a pitch which had recovered remarkably from the battering DAC and Trnava had given it 48 hours earlier.

DAC had won, in the only First Division game played in Slovakia, with leading scorer Dina getting the winner before missing a penalty.

Victory in the snow and sleet helped DAC towards a UEFA Cup place and Trnava to the penultimate spot but there will be no relegation, just reorganisation, when the autumn comes.

Six Second Division Slovak clubs will step up to challenge Slovan & Co. for the first national championship in democratic times.

YUGOSLAVIA

MLADEN **BILIC** looks at the situation as soccer struggles for survival in a war-torn country

Two weeks to play, three weeks to fight

SEVERAL footballers have been killed and more have been injured during the civil war which drags on in the Yugoslavian republics.

But somehow clubs manage to continue playing whenever and wherever possible, doing their best to provide some light relief amid all the heartbreak.

In Prijedor, a Bosnian-Serb stronghold which is part of ***BOSNIA-HERCEGOVINA***, players from the local Rudar club have even organised a rota, and go to the battlefield in shifts.

After three weeks they return to the town and train and play in an indoor arena for a fortnight before going back to the war.

So many have been injured or killed in the conflict that gaps are appearing, to be filled by juniors longing for peace and for a chance to help the club into the Yugoslav League.

Many Muslim players left Bosnia early in the war to play for clubs in Croatia or Slovenia. They form the core of the Bosnian team who played a friendly against Kaiserslautern in Germany, to raise money for humanitarian purposes.

The team also featured some Croatians, including goalkeeper Anto Jakovljevic, who was outstanding despite a 4-1 defeat.

He now plays for the Cosmos club in Ljubljana, ***SLOVENIA***. Soccer was never very popular in this area, which is obsessed with winter sports, but the game is still alive and reasonably well.

Gates of 1,000 are considered above average, but the forthcoming Olimpija-Maribor game is expected to draw around 10,000.

Only three points split the top six clubs, who include Cosmos, Mura — backed by a powerful textile company — and Zivila Naklo.

Vardar Skopje are the most powerful club in ***MACEDONIA***.

They ended the first part of the first Macedonian championship eight points ahead of the nearest rivals in an 18-club division.

They then began the Spring season with an impressive 4-0 victory over old rivals Pobjeda, their ninth home win in a row.

Vardar's dominance is not doing any favours to other clubs. The terraces are empty, because everybody knows who will win both the Cup and League competitions.

Some international flavour could help the Macedonian game but this young state still has to be recognised, so that Vardar will not be able to play in the Champions' Cup next year and the national team are finding difficulty in organising friendly matches.

As expected, three clubs are dominating the new ***YUGOSLAV*** League. Partizan have a six-point lead over Red Star and Vojvodina, and the other clubs are staggering on at least ten points further behind.

At the beginning of the Spring season Vojvodina hosted the leaders in Novi Sad, with packed terraces, but the only goal was scored by an ex-Vojvodina striker, Ljubo Vorkapic, who now stars in Partizan's attacking formation.

Vorkapic was later shot and slightly wounded — nothing to do with soccer — but everything to do with the anarchy ruling many parts of internationally-isolated Yugoslavia.

Vorkapic duly regained his place in Partizan's first team, together with Slavisa Jokanovic, who had been out for a long time with a complicated injury. These two strikers seem unstoppable.

Outstanding . . . Jakovljevic.

CROATIA

Club or country? Both the same

FOLLOWERS of the most popular Croatian club are not sure if they know that club's real name.

Dinamo Zagreb became Hask-Gradjanski, and are currently called Croatia.

Dinamo was discarded because it was linked to the Communist period, Hask-Gradjanski because it was impossible to chant. The new name is certain to cause a great deal of confusion with the national team, but the fans are overjoyed that they do not have to put up with Hask-Gradjanski. They also know the author of the compromise solution. Miroslav Blazevic, the club's charismatic manager, recently decided to take over all the responsibility for name changes and other vital decisions.

He simply bought the club, investing the capital he accumulated during his many lucrative contracts in western Europe.

Blazevic, who seems to attract more fans to the terraces than the game itself, also is a prominent member of the ruling Croatian party in parliament.

His investment in the club paid off. They rushed to the top and after 19 rounds had 33 points, with champions Hajduk in second place seven points behind. Young centre-forward Goran Vlaovic is a born matchwinner and the ease with which he scores goals makes him a valuable property.

The country is still suffering from civil war, and the economy has been devastated.

Clashes along the Adriatic coast have resumed, directly affecting clubs such as Dubrovnik, Sibenik and Zadar, with their grounds occasionally coming under artillery fire.

Unlike these three, Hajduk Split are from the safe part of the coast. Their main problem is the lack of discipline among players.

Manager Stanko Poklepovic has had to resort to some very unusual methods, and organised a seminar where referees lectured the players on how to avoid unnecessary yellow and red cards.

MLADEN **BILIC**

FACE FACE

SIMON **KUPER** meets an unusual manager, Cornel Dinu

Yes, Minister

Romania have what it takes to reach US '94

ROMANIA are about to resume their campaign to qualify for the World Cup — they meet Cyprus at home on April 14.

Belgium are the runaway leaders of their group, so Romania are competing with Czechoslovakia (now "Representatives of Czechs and Slovaks") and Wales for second place, which also guarantees an American ticket. Romania have seven points from five matches, have beaten Wales 5-1, and are favourites to finish second. *WORLD SOCCER* found the Romanian manager, Cornel Dinu, in Santa Barbara, where his team completed an exhausting tour of the Americas with a 1-1 draw against the United States.

Dinu is a legend in Romania. He won 75 caps and was three times voted his nation's Player of the Year. Later he turned to coaching, and after the revolution he became his country's Sports Minister. A year ago he gave up that job to manage the national team, prompting sneers that he had used his political position to gain the job he really wanted.

WORLD SOCCER: ***Do you think Romania made a good start in their World Cup qualifying group?***
CORNEL DINU: After one year we have 50 per cent of the points needed to qualify. We need another six or seven points from our remaining five matches.

WS: ***Do you still regard Wales as a potential challenger, or only Czechoslovakia?***
CD: After our home match against Wales, I cannot think that they will take points from us. They can only get more deeply into it if they take points from Czechoslovakia.

WS: ***Why did you give up your ministerial post to take over the national team?***
CD: It was simply a comeback. Between politics and soccer, I chose soccer. I also did it because Romanian football is now going through a crisis. For practical reasons, we must qualify. I will fight together with my players. Every player will get a $50,000 bonus if we qualify. My political career would probably have been more relaxed — stress is part of our life.

WS: ***What have you done during your first year in charge?***
CD: We don't have a great number of players good enough to replace the first-team players. Because of this, my work for one year has been to concentrate on those already in the national team.

WS: ***What kind of problems does Romanian domestic football face?***
CD: It's very hard to keep players, as club directors think only in the short term. They sell a player to Germany for $1 million now when in a few years he'll be worth $3 or $4 million. There's a limited mental capacity among the powers that be and it's hard to change that. Whereas before we had disguised professionalism, now we have real professionalism, and it's hard to change the directors' minds. Also, a good gate now is only 4,000 or 5,000. Before, football was the bread of everyone — now people have other concerns.

WS: ***What is the point of a tour like this, when most of the best Romanian players — Hagi, Popescu and Lacatus for example — are absent because they play with foreign teams?***
CD: Our ideal squad has three levels of players: those who played in the last World Cup, those who have played competitive matches for the national team, and some young players who are our future.

Since we have this mix, we consider it would be good for us to verify the reaction of this third group in an international environment, so that we can see whom we can bring forward. The tour shows some of the players, who are very good at home, that there's a gap between club and international level.

WS: ***Have the young players you have seen encouraged you?***
CD: All the Latins have great trust in the next generation. We've always though that what will come in future will be better than us — that's what has always fooled us.

WS: ***On the whole, did the tour go well?***
CD: It was arranged by an agent and he made all the arrangements to suit himself. In South America we played far too often and flew too much, from Argentina to Paraguay, Ecuador and Peru. Once we arrived a couple of hours before the match, after travelling for days.

On our way to Los Angeles, in a plane that was on its way to LA, we had to get out at Mexico City and wait for the next flight!

WS: ***Romania had the better of a 1-1 draw with the US. What are the Americans' main strengths and weaknesses?***
CD: I have great respect for the American people, civilisation and democracy, but this is a young nation, and football is a very complex game.

They are good at ball-games and games of strength, but bad from the point of view of strategy.

Only if they wrestled with us and threw us to the ground could they win. The Americans only scare us when they bring aircraft carriers. They'll need another 100 years to play soccer. We do have something in common: in the US there is no national league, and in Romania we have a national league with a question-mark over it. I respect their coach, Bora Milutinovic. Yugoslavia has produced many great coaches. I know, because I'm Yugoslav myself, on my mother's side.

WS: ***Is it a good idea to stage the World Cup in the States?***
CD: The American people are very intelligent. They'll probably be good at organising this World Cup.

ROMANIA

Steaua lose a small fortune

STEAUA remain out in front but Dinamo are close behind them in Romania's Divize A.

A bigger blow to Steaua was elimination by Antwerp in the Cup-winners' Cup, a severe dent to prestige and wallet. Poor form in the league was followed by failure to see off the Belgians, who go on to two lucrative semi-final ties and possibly to Wembley.

When Otelul Galati came to town for the first match after the resumption of the championship, delayed by snow, Steaua were without Bacur, Dobos and Stan, the leading scorer, who is averaging a goal a game but was suspended from the Antwerp tie.

Panduru's goal gave Steaua a modest victory and kept them just ahead of Dinamo, convincing winners over "Poli" in Timisoara. So the university team are unlikely to qualify for European soccer in 1993-94.

BOB **VAUGHAN**

TABLES

ALBANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Partizani	23	14	7	2	39	15	35
Besa	23	12	7	4	30	15	31
Vllaznia	23	12	5	6	32	17	29
Teuta	23	11	6	6	26	17	28
Dinamo	23	10	7	6	29	25	27
Elbasani	23	9	7	7	30	22	25
Albpetrol	23	9	7	7	31	32	25
Tirana	23	6	9	8	34	35	21
Apolonia	23	6	9	8	34	35	21
Sopoti	23	7	6	10	26	33	20
Laci	23	7	6	10	17	27	20
Lushnja	23	7	5	11	22	29	19
Kastrioti	23	5	7	11	19	25	17
Pogradeci	23	6	5	12	20	28	17
Flamurtari	23	4	9	10	14	26	17
Tomori	23	7	2	14	20	45	16

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Levski	20	17	2	1	59	18	36
CSKA	20	13	4	3	44	15	30
Lok. Sofia	20	8	9	3	40	29	25
Etar	20	9	6	5	22	19	24
Botev	20	9	5	6	30	21	23
Lok. Plovdiv	20	9	4	7	34	19	22
Chernomorets	20	7	6	7	21	19	20
Lok. G.O.	20	6	7	7	20	23	19
Pirin	20	6	6	8	16	23	18
Yantra	20	7	4	9	20	32	18
Spartak	20	7	4	9	20	33	18
Beroe	20	5	6	9	17	24	16
Dobrudja	20	6	3	11	22	36	15
Slavia	20	5	4	11	25	42	14
Sliven	20	5	1	14	18	34	11
Haskovo	20	4	3	13	20	41	11

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slavia Prague	21	13	5	3	50	19	31
Sparta Prague	21	14	2	5	40	18	30
Dunajska Streda	22	12	4	6	37	24	28
Slovan	19	12	2	5	40	21	26
Sigma Olomouc	21	10	3	8	27	28	23
Boby Brno	22	10	3	9	29	34	23
Inter Bratislava	22	10	2	10	38	33	22
Banik Ostrava	21	7	8	6	34	28	22
FC Nitra	21	6	10	5	22	26	22
Spartak Hradec	21	7	5	9	23	24	19
Tatran Presov	21	6	6	9	30	30	18
C. Budejovice	20	7	3	10	23	22	17
TJ Vitkovice	20	6	4	10	17	27	16
Bohemians	20	3	7	10	14	36	13
Spartak Trnava	21	3	7	11	18	41	13
Dukla Prague	21	4	3	14	23	54	11

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vac	20	13	3	4	34	18	29
Kispest-Honved	20	13	3	4	30	16	29
Ferencvaros	19	13	2	4	28	12	28
Videoton	20	11	3	6	29	21	25
MTK	20	8	6	6	32	22	22
Vasas	20	6	8	6	22	21	20
Csepel	20	8	4	8	22	23	20
Bekescsaba	19	5	9	5	24	23	19
PMSC	20	8	3	9	23	23	19
Raba ETO	20	5	7	8	20	35	17
BVSC	20	6	5	9	17	23	17
Diosgyor FC	20	6	5	9	19	28	17
Siofok	20	5	5	10	19	27	15
Veszprem LC	20	5	5	10	21	35	15
Ujpesti TE	20	2	9	9	18	28	13
Nyiregyhaza	20	3	7	10	12	25	13

ROMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Steaua	22	18	3	1	55	12	39
Dinamo	22	17	4	1	54	14	38
Rapid Bucharest	22	11	5	6	29	23	27
Univ. Craiova	22	10	6	6	32	24	26
Gloria Bistrita	22	11	3	8	33	25	25
Otelul Galati	22	10	4	8	24	22	24
Univ. Cluj	22	11	1	10	31	29	23
Spt. Studentesc	22	9	5	8	31	30	23
Electro Craiova	22	9	5	8	18	17	23
FC Inter Sibiu	22	8	6	8	25	28	22
Farul Constanta	22	8	4	10	32	39	20
DU Braila	22	6	6	10	20	26	18
FC Brasov	22	7	4	11	21	29	18
Poli. Timisoara	22	5	8	9	18	33	18
Petrolul Ploiesti	22	7	1	14	27	32	15
Progresul	22	4	7	11	22	37	15
Selena Bacau	22	4	5	13	12	33	13
CSM Resita	22	3	3	16	21	52	9

RUSSIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Moscow Dynamo	5	3	2	0	13	6	8
Lok. N. Novgorod	5	3	1	1	6	4	7
Moscow Spartak	4	3	0	1	10	3	6
Lok. Moscow	5	2	1	2	6	2	5
CSKA	5	2	1	2	8	6	5
Sptk Vladikavkaz	5	2	1	2	8	9	5
Rotor	5	2	1	2	5	4	5
Torpedo	5	2	1	2	3	3	5
Asmaral	5	2	1	2	4	5	5
Tekstilshik	4	1	3	0	2	0	5
Dyn. Stavropol	5	2	0	3	3	7	4
Okean	4	1	2	1	3	2	4
Rostselmash	3	1	2	1	3	3	4
Zhemchuzhina	5	1	2	2	5	10	4
Luch	5	1	2	2	2	8	4
Uralmash	3	1	0	2	4	6	2
Kamaz	4	1	0	3	4	6	2
Wings	4	1	0	3	3	8	2

HUNGARY

The agent is now the boss

LOUIS DE VRIES has given a new twist to the poacher-turned gamekeeper line.

As agent for players while being general manager of Antwerp, he lured Hungarian players before becoming president of Kispest-Honved with a 51 per cent controlling share. He later enlisted a foreign manager, former Finland national team boss Martti Kuusela.

De Vries, 46, was born in The Hague but has lived in Antwerp for most of his life. He played for Antwerp until injury ended his career at 18, then moved into music promotion, but football remained his first love.

He became general manager of Antwerp in 1976 and Laszlo Fazekas, then Hungary's best player, and Sandor Muller were foreign "gifts" for the supporters upon the club's centenary.

Another Hungarian, former international Laszlo Balint, became his right-hand man and in 1984 helped to set up the Budapest branch of the de Vries company.

After negotiations on a joint venture with Ferencvaros broke down, what was still Budapest Honved asked to be considered. "In a very short time, at very short notice, we had several meetings and formed a company," de Vries said.

"We put up the money, an initial investment of just under $1million, and so far it hasn't been necessary to increase the investment.

"The Hungarian is a born footballer. But we need the input of western coaching know-how, especially in physical development."

Dr Gyorgy Mezey's Kispest contract was not renewed when de Vries took over, although he knows the importance of the teenage years and wrote a book on the training of young players.

"I have the highest esteem for him but I had the impression, and it got stronger and stronger, that some people in the club really couldn't get on with him." says de Vries.

"He also didn't want to communicate with some of these people. It started getting difficult."

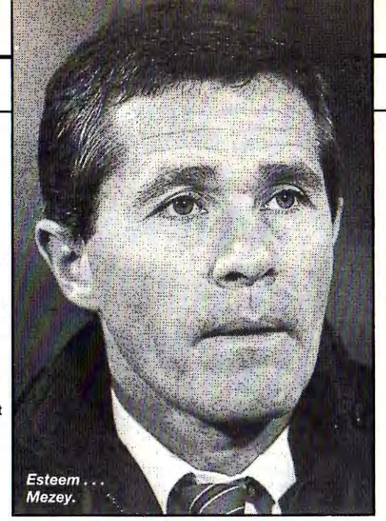
Jozsef Verebes took over, but did not last long.

"Verebes is a good friend of mine but the players were not performing," says de Vries. "So I called Martti — I am his agent, and he was out of work. There was opposition at first but the players have responded."

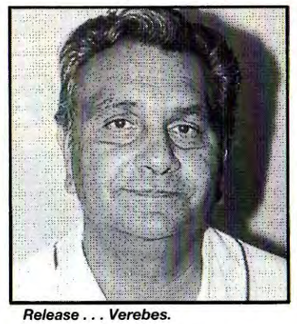
The release of foreign-based players for the triangular tournament in Japan in March caused problems, which de Vries describes as "completely stupid".

He adds: "The national federation, after a long winter break, played two games of the spring season, and then decided to stop it for 14 days. Why? In order to play two meaningless friendly matches."

BRIAN **O'SULLIVAN**



Esteem . . . Mezey.



Release . . . Verebes.

Two games, one goal, one trophy

Scorer . . . Kiprich.

HUNGARY, despite criticism at home by the clubs, won the three-nation Kirin Cup tournament in Japan.

Jozsef Kiprich scored the goal in a 1-0 win over Japan in Fukuoka, and the 0-0 draw against the United States in Nagoya, before a crowd of 80,000, left Hungary top, because Japan beat the US 3-1 in the other match.

Laszlo Disztl, Zsolt Limperger and Ferenc Meszaros were the only foreign-based players not called up.

Four others — Emil Lorincz, Lajos Detari, Kalman Kovacs and Kiprich — appeared in both matches.

Vac-Samsung retained their lead in the championship after four rounds of the spring season, by a point from Kispest and despite a 3-2 away defeat to lowly Veszprem. Kispest, shock losers in the Hungarian Cup to Second Division Haladas, were 3-0 winners over BVSC-Dreher.

Ferencvaros, who had been foiled by snow twice, in their Cup quarter-final with Pecs (they won the first leg away 1-0) and for their league match at Bekescsaba, managed to squeeze a 1-0 home victory over a disappointing Kispest.

Three of the four managerial changes since the season started involve teams in the bottom half.

Jozsef Verebes, sacked by Kispest, replaced Barnabas Tornyi at Raba, the club where Verebes first made his name.

Former international Gyozo Burcsa is at bottom club Nyiregyhaza, taking over from Janos Kovacs, and Gyula Bozai left Gazso.

BRIAN **O'SULLIVAN**

BULGARIA

Presidents quit at the top

THE bad weather, especially in the North-East, meant postponing the Bulgarian Cup quarter-finals.

Seeking . . . Penev.

Not only is there chaos in the schedule but the position with the management and organisational areas of top clubs is in the melting pot. The presidents of CSKA and Levski have resigned, though their teams occupy the first two places.

CSKA are unlikely to catch up on Levski in the remaining ten games. Levski have lost only once and have a striking rate some 30 per cent higher than other leading clubs.

Sliven look doomed to Division Two following a 2-1 away defeat by Slavia, who are again having a very modest season.

On the international front, the Bulgarians will be the next to take on the Austrians in the Prater, where France put one over on the new coach, Herbert Prohaska.

While the Austrians now need what Prohaska called, in a very objective media conference, "ein Wunder", Dimitar Penev seeks a point, two for preference, to keep the Swedish challenge at bay.

Before the month is out the Finns are due in Sofia, so these are critical weeks in World Cup terms.

Penev had 18 players under the microscope in Tenerife, 13 of them based abroad — in England, Germany, Portugal and Switzerland.

BOB **VAUGHAN**

ALBANIA

Referees force two-week gap

FOOTBALL clubs have appealed to the Albanian Government for financial help as the country's economic crisis deepens.

Matches had to be postponed on two successive Sundays when the Association of Albanian Referees refused to attend. Clubs have become so desperate for money that sometimes officials have not been paid.

Eduard Dervishi, secretary of the Football Federation, appealed for governmental aid, and said that the championship might not be completed this season unless help was forthcoming.

Per Omdal, a member of the UEFA executive, attended a meeting of the federation, and promised assistance. This led to a return by the referees, and play in the championship resumed.

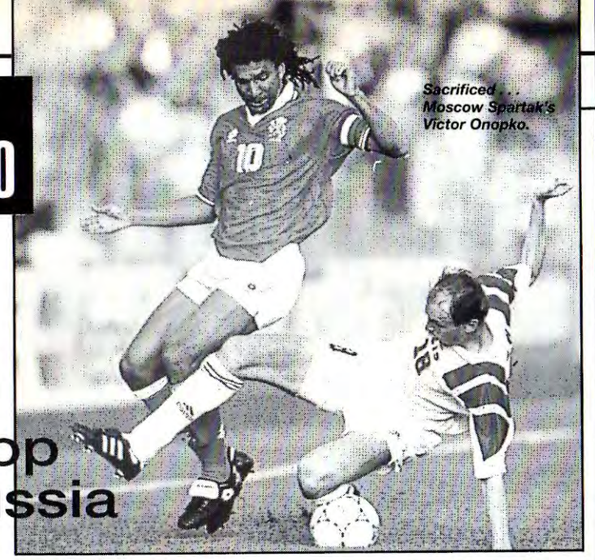
Partizan led the table after 23 matches, with 35 points. Besa were second on 31, and Vllaznia third on 29.

GEZIM **NUSHI**

THIS SPORT LIGHT ON **VICTOR ONOPKO**

Victor Victory

He's the top man in Russia



Sacrificed . . . Moscow Spartak's Victor Onopko.

VICTOR ONOPKO is the best player in Russia — officially — less than a year after he nearly succeeded in using his young brother's passport to go through customs at Moscow airport.

Virtually unknown, even to most of his team-mates, this ugly ducking was selected by Anatoli Byshovets, the CIS team manager, for the European Championship finals, and used this opportunity to start turning into a swan.

His duel with Ruud Gullit is remembered as one of the few bright Swedish episodes for the CIS team.

Moscow Spartak's Onopko, 23, managed to win everybody's heart almost in no time. Towards the end of last year there was no question of his place as the best player of the first Russian Championship, and official confirmation followed when 106 of the 173 journalists voted for him.

Onopko's team-mates, Igor Ledyakhov and Dmitri Radchenko, were named second and third respectively, followed by Internazionale's Igor Shalimov and national goalkeeper Stanislav Cherchesov, also of Spartak.

Ironically Russia's top player comes from Ukraine. He played for Kiev Dinamo and Shakhtyor Donetsk until last year, when he joined Spartak.

He is married to a Ukrainian girl, Natasha, a former gymnast, and still has a strong Ukrainian accent and calls himself "Ukrainian for life".

But Onopko, like his compatriot Sergei Yuran of Benfica, sacrificed his national feelings and opted for the Russian national team, where he plays as a libero.

Victor's younger brother Sergei, who once gave him his foreign passport in an effort to travel abroad, is still with Shakhtyor and the Ukrainian Olympic team.

"My brother is only 19 and he has time to wait until Ukraine becomes really strong in world football," Victor explains.

"For me it would have been unpardonable to miss the 1994 World Cup — probably the only one in my career."

Onopko is a fan of rock group Queen and Marlon Brando as The Godfather. He drives a Nissan, has nothing against the Western lifestyle, and would like to play for a foreign club one day.

Spartak's manager, Oleg Romantsev, was ready to fulfil his promise and let Onopko go after the end of the season.

But Victor decided to stay — like most of his team-mates he feels that Spartak have a strong chance of winning the Cup-winners' Cup.

"Among other things, it would probably mean a more lucrative foreign contract," Onopko says, refusing to reveal what offers he already has had.

VICTOR **GUSEV**

RUSSIA

Saturday night fever

MOSCOW SPARTAK topped the table from the beginning of the national championship, a real ordeal for the 18 participating clubs.

In March games were played on bumpy snow-covered pitches in freezing temperatures. In April the teams had to make their way through swamps.

Russia has only one stadium with artificial heating — Torpedo's in Moscow. Another "winter alternative" for the six Moscow clubs is to play at indoor arenas.

Two, however, have no place for spectators, while the CSKA arena holds only 3,000 and the only large one — the 30,000-seat Olimpiyski complex — would not let footballers in. The place has been rented by a discotheque and the stadium owners said that gives them much more profit.

Playing under a roof is not real football, anyway. Journalists immediately called it "synthetic junk" and UEFA would not let official games be held indoors, which puts Russian contenders for Europe in an awkward position.

Before the break-up of the Soviet Union there was always a chance to play games in the south. Today southern cities such as Kiev and Tbilisi belong to other countries with their own championships.

The only solution is to install artificial heating, but the costs are prohibitive.

BALTIC STATES

Double blow for Piir

ESTONIA'S faint hopes of causing World Cup qualifying upsets receded even further with injuries to two key players.

Urmas Hepner, skipper and strong man in defence, and Urmas Kirks, a midfielder, are both likely to be out for the rest of the season.

Coach Uno Piir took his national squad to Trieste for a World Cup qualifier against Italy saying: "We're going to fight for every ball, every metre of ground."

But he and everyone else knew that there was no chance of a Faroes-style overturning of the form book.

The Estonians took part in the Baltic Cup, played in Finland, but finished a poor fourth out of four.

They drew 0-0 with the host nation but lost 4-3 on penalties, then went down 2-0 to Latvia. Lithuania had beaten the Latvians 2-1, thanks mainly to a fine display by midfielder Viktoras Olsanskis.

In the final, Finland gave new coach Tommy Lindholm a welcome win, beating the Lithuanians 3-0.

The matches were played indoors but were rated full internationals.

BALTIC CUP

Semi-finals

LATVIA 1 (*Semoyonovs*)
LITHUANIA 2 (*Mikalajunas, Suliauskas*).

FINLAND 0
ESTONIA 0
(*Finland won 4-3 pens*).

Third place

ESTONIA 0
LATVIA 2 (*Bulders, Semoyonovs*).

Final

FINLAND 3 (*Gronholm, Ruhanen, Kinnunen*)
LITHUANIA 0

MARCUS **LUIK**

TABLES

UZBEKISTAN *(Final table)*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Pakhtakor Tashkent	32	24	3	5	94	40	51
Neftchi Fergana	32	23	5	4	66	14	51
Sogdiana Djizak	32	23	2	7	78	27	48
Nurafshon Bukhara	32	20	7	5	59	23	47
Navbakhor Namangan	32	18	8	6	54	21	44
Temirulchi Kokand	32	18	7	7	47	28	43
Navruf Andizhan	32	12	9	11	45	45	33
Kosonsoichi	32	12	8	12	35	40	32
Traktor Tashkent	32	11	5	16	40	49	27
Marakanda Samarkand	32	8	10	14	29	46	26
FKA Pakhtakor-79	32	9	7	16	38	58	25
Chirchik	32	7	11	14	36	54	25
Aral Nukus	32	9	4	19	27	50	22
Yangier	32	9	4	19	40	64	22
Shakhrikhonchi	32	7	7	18	25	67	21
Kimyogar Almalyk	32	5	5	22	30	68	15
Surkhan Termez	32	0	12	20	15	64	12

KAZAKHSTAN *(Final play-off table)*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kairat Alma-Ata	26	16	5	5	48	22	37
SKIF Arsenal Chimkent	26	14	8	4	39	21	36
Traktor Pavlodar	26	14	8	4	39	22	36
Ekibastuzets	26	14	6	6	39	24	34
Fosfor Djambul	26	12	5	9	40	29	29
Zhiger Chimkent	26	9	10	7	33	22	28
Shakhter Karaganda	26	8	12	6	24	22	28
Gornyak Khromtau	26	8	7	11	24	29	23
Tselinnik	26	7	9	10	32	37	23
Kaisar Kaz-yl-Orda	26	9	2	15	25	29	20
Vostok Ust-Kamenogolsk	26	8	4	14	29	35	20
Aktyubinets	26	4	12	10	12	31	20
Khimik Kustanai	26	7	3	16	29	45	17
Sptk Semipalatinsk	26	5	3	18	25	60	13

MOLDAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zimbrul Kishinev	15	11	3	1	38	11	25
Budzhak Komrat	15	9	4	2	25	13	22
Moldova Boroseny	15	9	4	2	20	9	22
Tiligul Tiraspol	15	9	3	3	31	14	21
Konstruktorul-AGRO	15	8	3	4	27	15	19
KSS Amakom	15	7	4	4	22	14	18
Sperantsa Nisporeny	15	6	6	3	16	9	18
Nistru Ataki	15	5	6	4	22	25	16
Kodru Kalarash	15	6	2	7	18	27	14
Tigina Bendery	15	4	5	6	12	20	13
Olimpiya Beltsy	15	5	2	8	12	13	12
Nistru Cheboruchi	15	3	4	8	10	24	10
Univ. Chuchuleny	15	3	3	9	12	23	9
Dinamo Kordu Kishinev	15	2	4	9	11	25	8
Kristall Faleshty	15	2	3	10	13	34	7
Trikon Kagul	15	1	4	10	7	20	6

KIRGISTAN *(Final table)*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Alga Bishkek	22	18	2	2	70	16	38
Dostuk Sokoluk	22	13	6	3	63	17	32
Alai Osh	22	11	3	7	55	24	27
Selmashevets Bishkek	22	11	4	7	33	31	26
Semetei Kyzyl-Kiya	22	10	4	8	40	36	24
Alai Gulch	22	10	4	8	28	35	24
Spartak Tokmak	22	9	6	7	39	23	24
Instrum. Bishkek	22	8	6	8	31	33	22
Namys-APK	22	6	4	12	38	46	16
Khimik Kara-Balta	22	5	3	14	21	48	13
Kok-Art Djalalabad	22	4	2	16	26	70	10
Ala-Too Naryn	22	2	4	16	12	77	8

TADZHIKISTAN *(Final table)*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Pamir Dushanbe	20	16	1	3	61	15	33
Regar Tursunzade	20	11	4	5	27	11	26
Vakhsh Kurgan-Tyube	20	11	2	7	36	23	24
Khodzhent	20	10	4	6	14	16	24
Pakhtakor Proletarsk	20	11	1	8	23	30	23
Istravshan Ura-Tyube	20	10	3	7	27	35	23
Shodman Gissar	20	8	4	8	18	16	20
Sokhibkor Dushanbe	20	7	4	9	19	19	18
Saikhun Khudzhand	20	6	5	9	21	27	17
Sitora	20	3	3	14	11	31	9
Khosilot Parkhar*	10	1	0	9	6	24	2
Revshan Kulyab*	10	0	1	9	4	20	1

* *Withdrew from competition during season.*

TURKMENISTAN *(Final table)*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kopetdag Ashkhabad	28	27	0	1	151	8	54
Nebitchi	28	22	3	3	96	12	47
Akhal	28	22	2	4	103	16	46
Merv Mary	28	18	5	5	67	18	41
Sport Vyuzmein	28	16	5	7	49	37	37
Khazar	28	15	5	8	35	31	35
Arlan Nebit-Dag	28	13	8	7	37	35	34
TSKhT Ashkhabad	28	16	1	11	69	37	33
Lebap Chardzhov	28	9	5	14	30	38	23
Kolkhozchi Turkmen	28	8	3	17	30	62	19
Zarya Dashkhovvz	28	6	2	20	20	70	14
Bereket	28	3	2	20	22	85	13
Djeikhun Seidi	28	5	1	22	20	122	11
Arkach Kzylarvat	28	5	0	23	14	123	10
Umid Bairam-Ali	28	1	1	26	15	64	3

BYELARUS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Minsk Dinamo	16	14	2	0	45	8	30
Belarus Minsk	16	10	3	3	27	12	23
KIM Vitebsk	16	8	6	2	21	9	22
Khimik Grodno	16	8	5	3	16	16	21
Torpedo Mogilev	16	6	8	2	21	10	20
Brest Dinamo	16	7	5	4	19	11	19
Dnepr Mogilev	16	7	5	4	22	17	19
Traktor Vobrusk	16	6	6	4	14	6	18
Shakhtor Soligorsk	16	6	5	5	12	15	17
Stroitel Starye Dorogi	16	5	3	8	13	15	13
Gomselmash	16	4	5	7	11	19	13
Torpedo Minsk	16	3	7	6	15	20	13
Metallurg Molodechno	16	4	3	9	17	25	11
Vedrich Rechitsa	16	3	5	8	14	31	11
Lokomotiv Vitebsk	16	2	6	8	16	24	10
Obuvshchik Lida	16	2	4	10	9	25	8
Bel AZ Zhodino	16	1	2	13	9	38	4

THE FIFA/COCA-COLA CUP
WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP
AUSTRALIA '93

By Jonathan **Shallard**

Brazil the best

Ghana can't stop unique treble

THE World Youth Championship was only seconds away from an unprecedented sudden-death finale.

Then Brazil's Gian produced a sudden-death finish of his own. Gian, the striker from Vasco da Gama, latched on to skipper Marcelinho's pass to tuck a shot inside Ghanaian goalkeeper Owu's right-hand post and give Brazil their third victory in the world's premier youth football tournament.

Sympathies went to the immensely talented Africans, but there was no denying Brazil's right to their unique hat-trick. In a tournament distinguished by the general equality of the teams, and individual players (as proven by the nomination of 17 for the adidas Golden Ball award), Brazil had their noses in front.

Australian captain Kevin Muscat claimed before the semi-final that Brazil's reputation was no longer worth a one-goal start, but in most games reality proved otherwise.

The Brazilians had swept all before them in their Adelaide group and had little problem with the United States in the quarter-finals before sinking the Aussies' ambitions in the semis. It all had a look of growing inevitability.

One school of thought still backed Ghana because of their sheer unpredictable exuberance, but even the increasingly worldly Africans were no match for the superior sophistication of the South Americans.

Objective assessment of the Brazilians varied, largely because of the absence of a serious challenge from other established countries.

Europe, with six representatives (a predominance no longer justifiable in future?) — produced the tournament's biggest collective disappointment. Portugal, champions in 1989 and 1991, were not even a shadow of their former selves since the promotion of inspirational coach Carlos Queiroz to senior level; Euro champions Turkey sank without trace after a traumatic 6-0 slaughter by the US in the Turks' first world level appearance of any kind since the 1954 World Cup; Germany went close but not close enough with a team who, according to coach Rainer Bonhof, were below par; Norway were totally out of their depth; Russia survived to the last eight despite a series of misadventures including injuries, disappearing players and makeshift kit.

Only England were left to mount a serious European challenge, with a first-choice squad but hardly a team.

Gian fires home the winner for Brazil in the final against Ghana in Sydney.

With only 12 matches behind them, of which just three were friendlies for experimentation, the English were a collection of reputable individuals who, as manager David Burnside maintained from the start, could only hope to knit together better as the tournament progressed.

England's third place was their best finish ever in a world youth competition. The campaign had been preceded by the undignified squabble over the release of some players, especially Tottenham's Nick Barmby.

His lacklustre performances in Australia and early retirement with shin injuries only fuelled speculation that his club's reluctance to let him go had been due to injuries which the club preferred nobody else to know about.

The South Americans were impressive. Apart from Brazil, Uruguay topped the toughest first-round group before being beaten by Australia, while Colombia, led by the quicksilver Zambrano, were rather unlucky to fall at the first hurdle.

The intermediate honours were evenly distributed, with the last eight comprising two teams from Europe, two from South America, two from North/Central America, one from Africa and one from Oceania.

Only the Asians were missing, although nobody would have contested Korean claims to be one of the most accomplished teams of all.

The young Aussies hoped home advantage would overcome certain weaknesses and coach Les Scheinflug did all he could to motivate his boys to greater commitment in order to cover for technical shortcomings.

The ruse worked until the semi-final, when nerves, midfield malfunctions and Brazilian superiority found them out.

But even defeat by England in the third-place play-off could not stifle speculation about a new generation of young Socceroos on the verge of greater things in Europe.

The Ghanaian generation who first emerged at the 1989 Under-16 Tournament in Scotland had now reached the FIFA age limit, so the question is whether similar precocious youngsters are readily groomed back home.

The Africans played with characteristic lack of inhibition which often bordered on naivety, but the effect remained spectacular.

This was a thoroughly successful Championship, and hopefully it will leave an indelible mark of encouragement on the game's progress in Australia.

Football may always lag behind Aussie Rules, both rugby codes and cricket, but Australia '93 could provide the long-awaited impetus to earn the game a stronger niche in this sports-mad country.

With 260,000 players and a strong ethnic following, the basis is surely there, and nothing could vindicate FIFA's youth policy more than to see a brave new world of Australian soccer flourish in the years ahead.

Turkey's Yusuf Tokac cannot stop Brian Kelly of the US (above).

England's David Watson saves a penalty in the shoot-out against Mexico (right).

Action from Mexico's 3-0 win over Norway (below).

PROGRESS TO THE FINAL

FIRST ROUND

Group A

AUSTRALIA got off to the desired start, but not without a scare. The generally under-rated Colombians struck first through outstanding winger and captain Zambrano, but the Aussies came back to win 2-1.

Russia overcame extraordinary administrative bloomers to score a 27-second goal from which Cameroon never recovered.

The Africans eventually beat the off-guard Socceroos in their final match but the home side had meanwhile overcome Russia 3-1 to secure second spot behind the Russians.

Group B

WHAT appeared to be the strongest of the four groups suffered from the poor form of the two European teams. Germany's Carsten Jancker shattered Portugal's hopes of a World Youth hat-trick with a last-minute winner, but the front runners were Ghana and Uruguay.

The Africans became more convincing from one match to the next and an ultimate win over the outgoing Cup-holders put them into the last eight along with the surprising Uruguayans, who withstood a typical late German rally.

Group C

EUROPEAN champions Turkey, with some 10,000 fans behind them, had a rude baptism in world youth football as Chris Faklaris claimed three goals in a euphoric opening 6-0 win for the United States.

England were happy to get a late draw against Korea but improved sufficiently to beat the Americans with a Chris Bart-Williams goal. The Koreans produced the best game of the group to hold the US to a draw but it was not enough to see them through, and their misery was compounded when Ilhami Arslan's last-minute penalty miss left England as group winners.

Group D

THE question was whether Mexico or Saudi Arabia would accompany Brazil to the last eight.

The Saudis went closest to upsetting the Brazilians with an opening 0-0 draw while Mexico were trouncing Norway 3-0.

But they could not score against the Norwegians either, and on the last day the Arabs let slip an early lead against the Mexicans, Luis Salazar scoring twice to turn the game around.

QUARTER-FINALS

SYDNEY: Russia failed against rampant Ghana, who scored three times in the last 19 minutes with a performance which not only marked the end of the Russian resistance to all kinds of adversity but also served notice of the Africans' serious intention of going all the way.

BRISBANE: Australia looked uncomfortable against Uruguay but then made football history of sorts by claiming the first sudden-death victory after 13 minutes of extra time. Carbone was the matchwinner after Agostino had produced the goal of the championship, an extraordinary flying header.

MELBOURNE: England again looked to pick up bits in the Mexican goal-area rather than try anything more adventurous, but failed to get the decisive break. A yawn of a match went to extra time and penalties, when David Watson had his deserved moment of glory by saving Juan Solis's kick.

ADELAIDE: Two goals by alert defender Bruno and one from Adriano were too much for the all-American team often left outsmarted and overawed by the talented South Americans. The US made a game of it in the last quarter, but the Brazilians were looking increasingly like champions.

SEMI-FINALS

MELBOURNE: Some of the stuffing went out of the event as Australia lost in front of a 22,100 full house at Olympic Park, the first time a soccer match in Australia had been sold out in advance.

Cate took the Aussies apart down the right and libero Marcelinho made telling runs through the middle — and these were the two who scored.

"The dream is destroyed," said Aussie coach Scheinflug, close to tears. "Some of our boys just didn't have the nerves for the occasion. But they gave all they had. All Australia can be proud of them." All Australia was.

SYDNEY: England left their fight-back too late after a penalty to either side and a stunning free-kick by Gargo. The Africans exposed the static English defence more than once, and there was no denying the ultimate difference of quality.

THIRD PLACE MATCH

DEFENDER Unsworth put England ahead with yet another close-range goal in the first half, and Milicic's shot was diverted past Watson shortly after the break.

Diminutive striker Joachim settled it, five minutes from time, with an inspired solo, evading two defenders and 'keeper Matassa.

FINAL

BRAZIL v Ghana was the combination every purist wanted to see and the product lived up to its promise. An inventive, offensive, incisive match was a more senior version of that memorable encounter between many of the same players two years ago, at the Under-17 Championship in Italy.

When 16-year-old Emmanuel Duah leapt to loop his header over Dida, most Aussie dollars were on the Africans. But Brazil, driven on by the unstoppable runs of Cate and marshalled by Adriano, clawed their way back and equalised five minutes after the break, Yan bravely prodding home Adriano's pass. With extra time looming, Marcelinho left the defence in disarray and Gian grabbed the chance to take the FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup home and rekindle hopes of another great Brazilian pedigree in the future.

The tournament in short

Golden Ball *(Best player)*
Adriano (Brazil)

Golden Boot *(Top scorer)*
Zambrano (Colombia)

FIFA Fair Play Prize
England

FIRST ROUND

Group A *(Sydney/Canberra)*

05.03.93	Australia v Colombia	2-1
06.03.93	Russia v Cameroon	2-0
08.03.93	Australia v Russia	3-1
08.03.93	Colombia v Cameroon	3-2
11.03.93	Australia v Cameroon	0-2
11.03.93	Colombia v Russia	1-3

Group B *(Brisbane)*

06.03.93	Portugal v Germany	0-1
06.03.93	Uruguay v Ghana	1-1
09.03.93	Portugal v Uruguay	1-2
09.03.93	Germany v Ghana	2-2
11.03.93	Portugal v Ghana	0-2
11.03.93	Germany v Uruguay	1-2

Group C *(Melbourne)*

07.03.93	Turkey v US	0-6
07.03.93	Korea v England	1-1
09.03.93	England v US	1-0
09.03.93	Korea v Turkey	1-1
11.03.93	Korea v US	2-2
11.03.93	England v Turkey	1-0

Group D *(Adelaide)*

07.03.93	Mexico v Norway	3-0
07.03.93	Brazil v Saudi Arabia	0-0
09.03.93	Mexico v Brazil	0-0
09.03.93	Norway v Saudi Arabia	0-0
11.03.93	Mexico v Saudi Arabia	2-1
11.03.93	Norway v Brazil	0-2

QUARTER-FINALS

13.03.93		
Sydney	Russia v Ghana	0-3
Brisbane	Uruguay v Australia	1-2
14.03.93		
Melbourne	England v Mexico *(England won 4-3 pens)*	0-0
Adelaide	Brazil v US	3-0

SEMI-FINALS

17.03.93		
Melbourne	Brazil v Australia	2-0
Sydney	Ghana v England	2-1

THIRD PLACE MATCH

20.03.93		
Sydney	England v Australia	2-1

FINAL

20.03.93		
Sydney	Brazil v Ghana	2-1

Brazil: Dida, Juarez, Bruno, Gelson, Hermes, Pereira (Caico 62), Marcelinho, Yan, Cate, Adriano (Argel 90), Gian.
Ghana: Owu, Kuffuor, Nimo, Banini, Isaac Asare, Addo, Gargo, Lamptey, Akonnor (Boateng 86), Ahinful, Duah.
Scorers: 0-1 Duah (15), 1-1 Yan (50), 2-1 Gian (89).
Referee: Ahmet Cakar (Turkey). **Att:** 40,015

WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP

The 287 from 16 nations

AUSTRALIA
1 .... Frank JURIC ..... Melbourne Croatia 28.10.73
2 .... Craig MOORE ..... AIS 12.12.75
3 .... Aaron Patrick HOLST ..... Marconi 06.03.74
4 .... Ante Milan JURIC ..... Canberra Metros 11.11.73
5 .... Marc Nelson WINGELL ..... Perth Italia 03.10.73
6 .... Kevin Vincent MUSCAT ..... South Melbourne 07.08.73
7 .... Sean Ashley CRANNEY ..... Brisbane United 02.10.73
8 .... Anthony CARBONE ..... Perth Italia 13.10.74
9 .... Paul AGOSTINO ..... Young Boys Berne 09.06.75
10 .. Ante Josip MILICIC ..... Sydney Croatia 04.04.74
11 .. Peter TSEKENIS ..... Sydney Olympic 04.08.73
12 .. Jimmy TSEKINIS ..... West Adelaide 08.05.75
13 .. Ante Tomislav MORIC ..... Sydney Croatia 19.04.74
14 .. Fabio MACOLINO ..... Marconi 23.08.74
15 .. Vasko TRPCEVSKI ..... Preston 07.03.75
16 .. Darren Patrick IOCCA ..... Marconi 29.08.74
17 .. Nicholas Arel RADECKI ..... Sunshine George Cross ... 27.12.73
18 .. Vincent MATASSA ..... Perth Italia 21.09.73
Coach: Les SCHEINFLUG

BRAZIL
1 .... Nelson "DIDA" ..... EC Vitoria 07.10.73
2 .... Bruno CARVALHO VIANNA ... Vasco da Gama 26.03.74
3 .... Gelson GONCALVES JUNIOR Flamengo 11.05.74
4 .... Juarez TEIXEIRA SOUZA ..... Portuguesa 25.09.73
5 .... Marcelo "MARCELINHO" ..... Corinthians 13.09.73
6 .... Wagner ANJOS ALVES ..... CA Juventus 28.12.73
7 .... Marcos Antonio "CATE" ..... Sao Paulo 07.11.73
8 .... Emerson "PEREIRA" ..... Sao Paulo 21.08.73
9 .... Giancarlo "GIAN" ..... Vasco da Gama 25.08.74
10 .. Adriano SILVA GERLIN ..... Neuchatel Xamax 20.09.74
11 .. Yan RAZERA LIMA ..... Vasco da Gama 01.05.75
12 .. Fabio OLIVEIRA NORONHA .. Flamengo 12.10.75
13 .. Andre Luiz PAULA MENEZES Guarani 15.02.74
14 .. Argelico "ARGEL" ..... International 04.09.74
15 .. Hermes NEVES SOARES ..... Corinthians 19.09.74
16 .. Airton "CAICO" ..... International 15.05.74
17 .. Roberto T. FONTES ..... Corinthians 29.03.74
18 .. Mario "JARDEL" ..... Vasco da Gama 18.09.73
Coach: Julio Cesar LEAL

CAMEROON
1 .... Andre Joel EBOUE EBOUE .... Olympic 25.06.74
2 .... Appolinaire EDJENTE ..... Mineduc Yaounde 31.05.76
3 .... Jeffrey NJUAKAM YEMBA ..... Union Douala 17.12.73
4 .... Jean Claude MBVOUMIN ..... Canon Yaounde 05.12.73
5 .... Bernard Sam TCHOUTANG ... Fovou 02.09.76
6 .... Pius SIELENU NDIEFI ..... Lens 05.07.75
7 .... Bleriot HEUYOT TOBIT ..... Union Douala 27.11.75
8 .... Serge MIMPO TSINTSEME .... Canon 06.02.74
9 .... Patrick H. SUFFO KENGNE ... Tonnerre 17.01.78
10 .. Cyrille Y. NDONGO KELLER .. Tonnerre 16.02.74
11 .. Frederic Trouble NDIBA MUKETE Victoria 04.01.75
12 .. Simon Hector MOUKOKO ..... Leopard 27.11.76
13 .. David EMBE ..... Racing 13.11.73
14 .. Rigobert SONG BAHANAG .... Tonnerre 01.07.76
15 .. Marc Vivien FOE ..... Fogape 01.05.75
16 .. Patrice ANDOMO ..... Colomba 22.01.74
17 .. Joseph LEWONO ..... Fovou 01.09.76
18 .. Barnabe Bienvenue ANYA ..... Panthere 15.08.76
Coach: Jean MANGA ONGUENE

COLOMBIA
1 .... Daniel VELEZ ..... Envigado 08.10.73
2 .... Juan Carlos QUINTERO ..... Nacional 19.12.73
3 .... John Fredy TIERRADENTRO . Boca Juniors 15.08.73
4 .... James ANGULO ..... America 20.01.74
5 .... Arley DINAS ..... America 16.05.74
6 .... Carlos MONTOYA ..... America 28.10.73
7 .... Henry ZAMBRANO ..... Ind. Medellin 07.08.73
8 .... Nixon PEREA ..... Nacional 15.08.73
9 .... Nelson FLOREZ ..... Santa Fe 01.03.74
10 .. Arley BETANCOURT ..... Deportivo Cali 04.03.75
11 .. Leonardo MORENO ..... America 02.11.73
12 .. Jersson GONZALEZ ..... Boca Juniors 16.02.75
13 .. Diego ALVAREZ ..... America 31.10.74
14 .. Victor MAFLA ..... America 07.01.74
15 .. Wilmer ORTEGON ..... America 02.03.74
16 .. Oscar RESTREPO ..... Arcos Saragoza 02.01.74
17 .. Edinson CHAVEZ ..... Deportivo Cali 04.02.74
18 .. Calixto CHIQUILLO ..... Atletico Junior 23.11.73
Coach: Reinaldo RUEDA RIVERA

ENGLAND
1 .... Simon SHEPPARD ..... Watford 07.08.73
2 .... Steve WATSON ..... Newcastle 01.04.74
3 .... David UNSWORTH ..... Everton 16.10.73
4 .... Marvin HARRIOTT ..... Unattached 20.04.74
5 .... Ian PEARCE ..... Chelsea 07.05.74
6 .... Andy MYERS ..... Chelsea 03.11.73
7 .... Chris BART-WILLIAMS ..... Sheffield Wednesday 16.06.74
8 .... Darren CASKEY ..... Tottenham 21.08.74
9 .... Nick BARMBY ..... Tottenham 11.02.74
10 .. Jamie POLLOCK ..... Middlesbrough 16.02.74
11 .. Alan THOMPSON ..... Newcastle 22.12.73
12 .. Andy JOHNSON ..... Norwich City 02.05.74
13 .. David WATSON ..... Barnsley 10.11.73
14 .. Nicky BUTT ..... Manchester United 21.01.75
15 .. Julian JOACHIM ..... Leicester City 20.09.74
16 .. Adrian MIKE ..... Manchester United 16.11.73
17 .. Ian SELLEY ..... Arsenal 14.06.74
18 .. Anthony HUGHES ..... Crewe 03.10.73
Manager: David BURNSIDE

GERMANY
1 .... Dimo WACHE ..... Borussia Mg 01.11.73
2 .... Werner PROTZEL ..... Bayern Munich 05.10.73
3 .... Frank MEISSNER ..... Werder Bremen 14.09.73
4 .... Mirko STARK ..... Koln 28.09.73
5 .... Markus SCHWIDEROWSKI .... Schalke 12.12.73
6 .... Maximilian EBERL ..... Bayern Munich 21.09.73
7 .... Carsten RAMELOW ..... Hertha Berlin 20.03.74
8 .... Guido JORRES ..... Koln 07.03.74
9 .... Carsten JANCKER ..... Koln 28.08.74
10 .. Dietmar HAMANN ..... Bayern Munich 27.08.73
11 .. Andre BREITENREITER ..... Hannover 96 ..... 02.10.73
12 .. Dietmar HUMMEL ..... SC Freiburg 20.10.73
13 .. Torsten LIEBERKNECHT ..... Kaiserslautern 01.08.73
14 .. Thomas RELS ..... Eintracht Frankfurt 04.10.73
15 .. Manfred BURGHARTSWIESER ... Bayern Munich 23.08.73
16 .. Sascha LENHART ..... Koln 16.12.73
17 .. Frank SCHMIDT ..... Nurnberg 03.01.74
18 .. Andreas BLUEM ..... Borussia Mg 21.12.73
Coach: Rainer BONHOF

GHANA
1 .... Ben OWU ..... Olympics 14.10.74
2 .... Emmanuel ASARE ..... Okwahu United 31.12.73
3 .... Kofi NIMO ..... Hearts Of Oak 01.10.74
4 .... Stephen BAIDO ..... Real Tamale United 25.09.76
5 .... Isaac ASARE ..... Anderlecht 01.09.74
6 .... Mohammed GARGO ..... Torino 19.06.75
7 .... Kwaben BOATENG ..... Neoplan 10.10.74
8 .... Nii Odartey LAMPTEY ..... Anderlecht 10.12.74
9 .... Augustine AHINFUL ..... Goldfields 30.11.74
10 .. Nelson MENSAH ..... Dinamo Bucharest 07.12.73
11 .. Emmanuel DUAH ..... Torino 14.11.76
12 .. Frederick OLLENU ..... Dawu 28.11.75
13 .. C.K. AKONNOR ..... Fortuna Koln 12.03.74
14 .. Osei KUFFOUR ..... Torino 03.09.76
15 .. Ransford BANINI ..... Goldfields 15.10.73
16 .. Jarae ALI ..... Hearts Of Oak 04.10.74
17 .. Adjetey ADJEI ..... Goldfields 31.12.73
18 .. Daniel ADDO ..... Bayer Leverkusen 06.11.76
Coach: Fred OSAM DUODU

KOREA
1 .... Hae-Woon KIM ..... Taegu Univ 25.12.73
2 .... Sang-Soo YOO ..... Korea Univ 28.08.73
3 .... Jin-Woo KIM ..... Taegu Univ 09.10.75
4 .... Ki-Hyung LEE ..... Korea Univ 28.09.74
5 .... Jae-Shin KIM ..... Kunkuk Univ 30.08.73
6 .... Cheol PARK ..... Taegu Univ 20.08.73
7 .... Dae-Ui KIM ..... Korea Univ 30.05.74
8 .... Jae-Phil HWANG ..... Yonsei Univ 09.09.73
9 .... Ho-Seong LEE ..... Choongang Univ 12.09.74
10 .. Yong-Soo CHOI ..... Yonsei Univ 10.09.73
11 .. Hyun-Doo CHO ..... Hanyang Univ 23.11.73
12 .. Sung Yong CHOI ..... Korea Univ 25.12.75
13 .. Hyun CHO ..... Dongkuk Univ 24.02.74
14 .. Jin-Ho CHO ..... Kyunghee Univ 02.08.73
15 .. Kyung-Soo LEE ..... Soongsil Univ 28.10.73
16 .. Dong-Wong SEO ..... Korea Univ 12.12.73
17 .. Kyung-Jun JEON ..... Posco FC 10.09.73
18 .. Ik-Hyung CHOI ..... Korea Univ 05.08.73
Coach: Sang-In PARK

MEXICO
1 .... Oswaldo SANCHEZ ..... Atlas 21.09.73
2 .... Francisco AMANTE ..... Atlas 03.06.74
3 .... Juan SOLIS ..... Tigres 19.07.74
4 .... Duilio DAVINO ..... San Sebastian 21.03.76
5 .... Carlos GONZALEZ ..... Tampico 05.11.73
6 .... Ruben GONZALEZ ..... Toluca 05.11.73
7 .... Joel SANCHEZ ..... Zapopan 17.08.74
8 .... Gabriel GARCIA ..... Zapopan 16.02.74
9 .... Jesus OLALDE ..... UNAM 05.05.74
10 .. Jose GARCIA ..... UNAM 14.08.74
11 .. Alan GUADARRAMA ..... Cruz Azul 22.09.75
12 .. Angel MALDONADO ..... America 08.09.73
13 .. Ricardo MUNGUIA ..... Veracruz 05.06.75
14 .. Jorga CRUZ ..... Tampico 11.01.74
15 .. Rafael ASTIVIA ..... America 09.04.75
16 .. Manuel SOL ..... UNAM 31.08.73
17 .. Vicente NIETO ..... UNAM 06.01.74
18 .. Luis SALAZAR ..... Tepic 28.11.73
Coach: G. Juan DE DIOS CASTILLO

NORWAY
1 .... Thomas MYHRE ..... Viking 16.10.73
2 .... Stian TOBIASSEN ..... Moss 31.12.74
3 .... Odd Arild SKONHOFT ..... Start 26.09.73
4 .... Thomas OESTVOLD ..... Lyn 18.10.73
5 .... Hai Ngoc TRAN ..... Kongsvinger 10.01.75
6 .... Torjus Ekeli HANSEN ..... Odd 29.10.73
7 .... Tarje N. JACOBSEN ..... Molde 05.05.74
8 .... Tommy S. LARSEN ..... Start 11.08.73
9 .... Lars OLSSON ..... Stromsgodset 08.09.73
10 .. Thomas HAFSTAD ..... Mjoliner 13.03.74
11 .. Harald LOEDEMEL ..... Sogndal 01.12.74
12 .. Lars ENGEERATEN ..... Mercantile 06.02.74
13 .. Boerge RANNESTAD ..... Viking 16.08.73
14 .. Brade SKORVE ..... Sogndal 14.11.73
15 .. Rune NORDENGEN ..... Lillestrom 12.05.74
16 .. Espen DALAND ..... Start 14.05.74
17 .. Petter RUDI ..... Molde 17.09.73
18 .. Jon KNUDSEN ..... Lillestrom 20.11.74
Coach: Bjorn HANSEN

PORTUGAL
1 .... Paulo COSTINHA ..... Boavista 22.09.73
2 .... Jose ZECA SILVA ..... Maritimo 07.02.75
3 .... Pedro HENRIAUES ..... Benfica 16.10.74
4 .... Hugo COSTS ..... Gil Vicente 04.11.73
5 .... Carlos LITOS Magalhaes ..... Campomaior 25.02.74
6 .... Vitor CARDOSO ..... Espinho 01.12.73
7 .... Nelson MORALS ..... Gil Vicente 24.03.74
8 .... Nuno ALFONSO ..... Benfica 06.10.74
9 .... Sergie RIBEIRO ..... Boavista 11.01.74
10 .. Ricardo NASCIMENTO ..... Leixoes 18.04.74
11 .. Antonio TONANEA SODSA .... Freamunde 03.02.74
12 .. Paulo MORAIS ..... Sporting 10.08.74
13 .. Luis BAMBO CASSANA ..... Boavista 22.10.74
14 .. Paulo POEJO ..... Sporting 30.09.73
15 .. Paulo FERREIRA ..... Estrela Amadora 14.09.73
16. Joao COSTA ..... CD Nacional 18.11.73
17 .. Hugo PORFIRIO ..... Sporting 28.09.73
18 .. Luis ANDRADE OLIVEIRA ..... Estoril Praia 30.09.73
Coach: Dr. Agostinho OLIVEIRA

RUSSIA
1 .... Sergei ALEXANDROV ..... Niva Ternopol 07.12.73
2 .... Dmitrii ANANKO ..... Moscow Spartak 29.09.73
3 .... Murad MAGOMEDOV ..... Zhernchuzhina Soci 21.09.73
4 .... Maxim BOKOV ..... Zenit St. Petersburg 29.08.73
5 .... Albert OSKOLKOV ..... Lok. N. Novgorod 09.08.73
6 .... Alexandr KARATAIEV ..... Lokomotiv Moscow 22.11.73
7 .... *Injured — not replaced*
8 .... Igor ZAZULIN ..... Zenit St. Petersburg 13.04.74
9 .... Denis KLIUEV ..... Asmaral Moscow 07.09.73
10 .. Vladimir BESCHASTNYKH .... Moscow Spartak 01.04.74
11 .. Yuri PETROV ..... Lokomotiv Moscow 18.07.74
12 .. Alexandr FILIMONOV ..... Fakel Voronezh 15.10.73
13 .. Mikhail MIRASHOV ..... Torpedo Moscow 27.10.73
14 .. Nikolai GOLUBKIN ..... Rostelmash Rostov 06.09.74
15 .. Yevgenii KHARLACHEV ..... Krylia Sovetov 20.01.74
16 .. Alexei ZERNOV ..... Textilscik Ivanovo 21.07.74
17 .. Vasilii POETKHIN ..... Shinnik Yaroslavl 17.09.74
18 .. Sergei CHUDIN ..... Moscow Spartak 24.11.73
Coach: Alexandr PISKAREV.

SAUDI ARABIA
1 .... Hussein AL SADIG ..... Qadisiyah 15.10.73
2 .... Mohamed AL JAHANI ..... Ahli 28.08.74
3 .... Khalid AL RASHAID ..... Hilal 03.08.74
4 .... Kamal HAWSAWI ..... Ittihad 21.09.74
5 .... Abdullah AL TAKROUNI ..... Ahli 15.11.73
6 .... Ahmed AL MAGHRABI ..... Ahli 20.09.75
7 .... Fahad AL GHESHEYAN ..... Hilal 01.08.73
8 .... Jarei AL GARNI ..... Ittihad 17.10.73
9 .... Abdulaziz AL DOSARI ..... Ahli 17.11.73
10 .. Mohammed AL OROMI ..... Hilal 27.11.74
11 .. Obied AL DOSSARY ..... Wehda 02.10.75
12 .. Waleed AL GHAMDI ..... Naser 01.09.73
13 .. Abdu SABYANI ..... Hilal 03.09.73
14 .. Ahmed SAEEDAN ..... Ahli 10.12.75
15 .. Nasser AL GAHIANI ..... Rowadah 05.12.73
16 .. KhamisAL DOSSARI ..... Hilal 08.09.73
17 .. Mesfer AL SHAMRANI ..... Ahli 21.07.74
18 .. Mansour AL HALWAH ..... Hilal 29.07.74
Coach: Carlos Roberto CABRAL

TURKEY
1 .... Yetkin AKMAN ..... Trabzonspor 02.03.74
2 .... Ilhami ARSLAN ..... Hatayspor 01.01.75
3 .... Bolent Tarik KAPUCI ..... Marmarisspor 29.08.73
4 .... Emre ASIK ..... Balikesirspor 13.12.73
5 .... Sinan DEMIRCIOGLU ..... Besiktas 23.04.75
6 .... Seyfettin KURTULMUS ..... Galatasaray 19.08.73
7 .... Hayati KOSE ..... Boluspor 01.10.73
8 .... Yusuf TOKAC ..... Besiktas 01.12.73
9 .... Oktay DERELIOGLU ..... Trabzonspor 17.12.75
10 .. Mustafa KOCABEY ..... Galatasaray 06.10.74
11 .. Turan ILCIKTAY ..... Besiktas 19.03.74
12 .. Murat TURKSOY ..... MKE Ankaraghed 01.12.74
13 .. Dursun KARAMAN ..... Fenerbahce 08.05.75
14 .. Hasan OZER ..... Gaziantepspor 01.10.74
15 .. Serkan RECBER ..... Zeytinburnu 18.10.75
16 .. Tarkan ALKAN ..... F. Karagumruk 01.08.74
17 .. Tekin SAZLOG ..... Herta 03 ..... 21.03.76
18 .. Bulent YILMAZ ..... Bakirkoyspor 29.11.73
Coach: Mamdi SERPIL TUZUN.

UNITED STATES
1 .... Richard KOCZAK ..... Oakwood/Mercer CC 31.08.73
2 .... Matthew MCKEON ..... Scott-Gallagher/St.Louis . 24.09.74
3 .... Gregg BERHALTER ..... Univ. of North Carolina 01.08.73
4 .... Chris FAKLARIS ..... Univ. of South Carolina ... 30.10.73
5 .... Brian JOHNSON ..... TVFC/Fresno State 07.03.74
6 .... Kelman ZAVAGNIN ..... Metro Magic/N. Carolina . 02.07.74
7 .... Michael GENTILE ..... Vardar III SC/Wisconsin ... 24.05.74
8 .... Robert SMITH ..... Univ. of South Carolina 20.08.73
9 .... Brian KELLY ..... Delco 06.10.74
10 .. Nelson VARGAS ..... Inter Juventus 06.08.74
11 .. Miles JOSEPH ..... Capital Utd/Clemson 02.05.74
12 .. Brandon POLLARD ..... University of Virginia 09.10.73
13 .. Matthew BEAVERS ..... TVFC/Univ. of SF 08.08.73
14 .. Dana QUICK ..... Rochester Mavericks 06.12.74
15 .. Robert LABELLE ..... UCLA 16.08.73
16 .. Wiliam LANZA ..... Spartans/Notre Dame 18.07.74
17 .. Imad BABA ..... Texans 15.03.74
18 .. Jeffrey CASSAR ..... Vardar III SC/FIU 02.02.74
Coach: Bobby HOWE

URUGUAY
1 .... Sergio MARTINEZ AGUIRRE . Sud America 13.10.74
2 .... Marcos MADRUGA OLIVERA Danubio 23.08.74
3 .... Nelson OLIVEIRA ROMERO ... Fenix 19.06.74
4 .... Luis LOPEZ BRIJO ..... River Plate 22.08.74
5 .... Tabare SILVA AGUILAR ..... Defensor 30.08.74
6 .... Edgardo ADINOLFI DUARTE . River Plate 27.03.74
7 .... Sergio SENA LAMELA ..... Nacional 15.08.73
8 .... Fabian O'NEIL DOMINGUEZ . Nacional 14.10.73
9 .... Rodrigo LEMOS ROSENDE ... Nacional 03.10.73
10 .. Alejandro MARQUEZ SIMOES River Plate 02.01.74
11 .. Fernando CORREA AYALA .... River Plate 06.01.74
12 .. Javier MENENDEZ LUIS ..... Wanderers 21.07.74
13 .. Nestor CORREA HOAGUY .... Liverpool 23.08.74
14 .. Alejandro TRAVSA MACHADO .... Defensor 08.09.74
15 .. Jorge ALVEZ FERNANDEZ .... Defensor 26.12.74
16 .. Javier DELGADO PAPARIELLO .. Danubio 08.07.75
17 .. Marcelo DAPUETO SAVISKI .. Racing 29.07.74
18 .. Fernando RODRIGUEZ FEIJO ..... Nacional 20.03.74
Coach: Angel CASTELNOBLE BANEGAS

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Rangers dangers

Too much of a good thing

RANGERS are posing a major threat to the future health of Scottish football.

Even before the season began much of the talk was of who would finish second. And, true to form, Rangers went into 1993 well clear of a challenging pack that only ever realistically featured Aberdeen, Celtic and Hearts.

Attendance and receipts records are regularly bein broken at the revamped Ibrox stadium. The average gate is 39,760, a year-on increase of almost 3,000. Elsewhere in Scotland the crowds are falling, because any battle for second place hardly captures the imagination of the public in the way that a nail-biting title race does.

For two of the three chasers, Celtic and Hearts, that could have dreadful consequences.

Both are strapped for cash and keen to either leave or rebuild their present old and crumbling grounds.

Just how serious those money problems are can be seen in the transfer market. Celtic, desperate for a scorer, could make no more ambitious move than snatch Frank McAvennie from under Partick's noses. McAvennie, the 33-year-old injury-ravaged former Celtic striker, had not played top football in almost two years, and was a free agent after being released by West Ham.

Hearts, last season's runners-up, were forced to sell one of their top players, Dave McPherson . . . to Rangers. Now Hearts are having to consider selling another Scotland defender, 22-year-old Alan McLaren.

Both Celtic, £5 million in debt, wracked with battles for control of the club and with their ground being used as security against their overdraft, and Hearts are finding their attendances at times dangerously below break-even figure.

Celtic, for instance, need an average 28,000 to operate successfully but the Parkhead attendance for a recent League match was only 12,000.

Even a meeting between Hearts and Celtic at Tynecastle, a fixture that regularly drew crowds approaching 40,000 in the 1960s and 70s, pulled in a mere 13,500.

A proposed Scottish Super League, breaking away from the existing authorities, was promoted by the leading clubs. Although that would have meant a greater slice of TV money and control for the top outfits, it was hardly going to provide Celtic, Hearts of Aberdeen with the kind of collateral that will allow them to fund a major challenge to Rangers.

Then Celtic shocked the others, and many of their own supporters, by putting their weight behind a counter-reorganisation — and abortive — Scottish League plan.

There was a major shake-up of Scottish football for the 1974-75 season, and briefly at least that allowed a resurgence of the League game.

The Premier Division featured originally only 10 teams, but has twice switched to 12, its present number, each playing the others four times in the course of a season.

By and large, they were the biggest and strongest teams, and that meant bigger crowds and fewer "nothing-at-stake" games with the majority of clubs, if not actually chasing the championship, at least battling for a UEFA Cup place or against relegation.

The Premier Division also brought a serious challenge to the duopoly of Rangers and Celtic, with Aberdeen and Dundee United winning the title four times between them in six years.

Then Rangers, flashing their chequebook, came roaring back, and although Celtic twice took the championship in the late 1980s, the Ibrox club have remained the major force in Scotland.

In transfer terms, Rangers have the clout to compete with the biggest in Europe, not just Britain; they can afford to pay wages that can attract the best players; their facilities and stadium are the best in Britain; their support is the biggest in the country.

Their strength in depth is such that they regularly leave out five or six leading players and still overwhelm the best of the rest in Scotland.

Some people see little danger in the ever-growing Rangers power.

Sandy Jardine, their former Scotland defender who later became co-manager of Hearts, says: "If you are a Rangers fan or a neutral, you get outstanding value for money when you watch them."

But there are not many neutrals in Scotland, most fans either love Rangers or loathe them.

This is not the first time that Scottish football has been totally dominated by a single club.

Between 1966-67 and 1973-74 Celtic won nine successive championships. And while they thrived as never before, the rest of Scottish football, which had been thriving in the years beforehand with seven names on the championship trophy in 15 seasons, slumped into a decline.

Then came the reorganisation that led to the Premier Division and a stunning rescue coup seemed to have been performed. Attendances perked up largely because of the wider spread of competition.

But that was followed by the Rangers revival . . . a power surge now sapping the energy from Scotland's other leading lights.

BOB McLEAN

Hearts and Celtic . . . trailing.

Rangers . . . leaders of the pack in Scotland.

UK news

A Tale of two Cities

Double date may be one too many

"TOO much of a good thing" was one reaction to the unique circumstances arising from the semi-finals of England's two major knockout competitions, when — for the first time — the same two clubs qualified to play in both.

Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday meet each other at Wembley in the Coca-Cola Cup Final on Sunday April 18, and again in the FA Cup Final on May 15: the traditional Saturday being one of the few occasions remaining immune to TV interference.

The Coca-Cola semi-finals were played over home-and-away legs, but both semi-finals in the major competition were played at Wembley, for the first time.

Two clashes between clubs in two cities — Arsenal and Spurs, Sheffield Wednesday and Sheffield United — provided a dream opportunity for the authorities, TV and Wembley's owners to come up with a package deal.

Viewers were assured of hours in front of the set, and fans — particularly from Yorkshire — were able to enjoy a visit to the old stadium, with plenty of tickets available to genuine supporters.

Undoubtedly there is a case for all future semi-finals to be taken to Wembley, but there is a school of thought which holds that the enormous number of matches now staged there takes much of the old magic away.

Sadly few grounds are now capable of staging the really big event in total safety . . . but one wonders why the FA and Football League, who have raked in huge sums over the years, still do not have a jointly-owned stadium, instead of paying so much so often for the hire of an arena operated by an outside agency.

The Coca-Cola semi-finals were virtually over after the first leg, but the all-Sheffield meeting was among the finest games Wembley has staged in recent years.

Chris Waddle's tremendous early free-kick gave Wednesday a grip that they rarely relaxed, and even when Franz Carr's superb long pass created an equaliser, Wednesday always semed to have something in hand.

Waddle, now aged 33, has had a tremendous season in a free role which he exploits to the full. His display at Wembley amply demonstrated his range of skills — the free-kick, the pin-point long ball, the dribble and the cross.

Even if he has slowed over the years, he remains a threat with his vision and ability to shield the ball from defenders.

A recall later in the World Cup campaign? And why not?

A victory for Wednesday in either of their forthcoming Cup finals would go a long way towards erasing Waddle's disappointment at being on the losing side with Spurs in the 1987 FA Cup Final.

Alan Kelly's superb saves, notably from David Hirst, Mark Bright and John Sheridan, kept United alive into extra time, but a simple header from a corner gave Bright the winner.

Kelly's father Alan played for Preston in the 1963 FA Cup Final and represented the Republic of Ireland for many years.

Kelly junior's reputation has grown significantly this season, and manager Jack Charlton already has indicated that when Pat Bonner finally hangs up his gloves, the boy Kelly is the most likely candidate to take over.

Fittingly, the United goal was scored by 35-year-old Alan Cork, who played for Wimbledon in the 1988 Final. With balding head and greying beard, he looked as if he had survived from United's last visit to Wembley in 1936.

A goal at English football's greatest setting — even if that setting is somewhat devalued — rounded off a collection of goals in every division of the League, including the Premier, and all under Dave Bassett.

Arsenal v Spurs next day was a huge anti-climax, decided by a late header from Tony Adams, England's best player in the 2-0 World Cup qualifying defeat of Turkey in Izmir earlier that week.

His splendid performance against the ill-tempered Turks had much to do with England's 2-0 victory, and should have silenced the terrace boo-boys who dubbed him "donkey" — a cruel jibe at a genuinely decent pro who always gives his best.

Then a repeat by Adams at Wembley ensured that Spurs lost an FA Cup semi-final after winning seven in succession without a single replay.

Their uninspired display reinforced the view that, despite Teddy Sheringham's scoring success, Spurs have not really recovered from the loss of Lineker and Gascoigne.

Arsenal's Lee Dixon also was unhappy. He was hurt in the Turkey game, recovered only just in time for the Wembley date, then was sent off near the end after two bookable offences that should have been avoided.

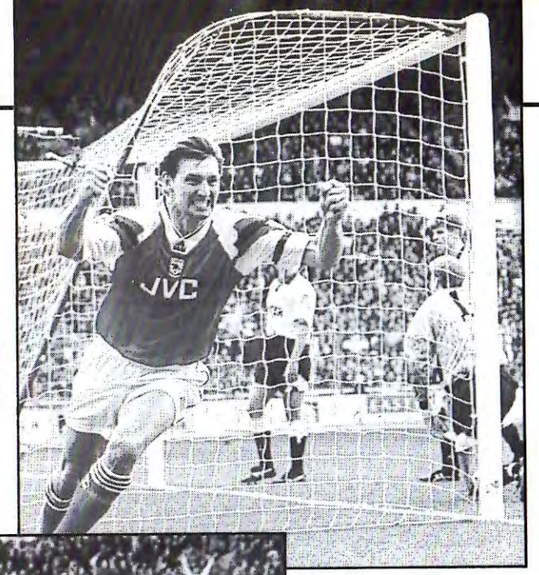
Dixon is ruled out of the Coca-Cola Final and may have difficulty regaining his place against the challenge of some up-and-comers and one old stager, the seemingly ageless David O'Leary — enjoying his final season as an Arsenal player after almost 20 years.

Ideally, victories in the two finals should be split between the two clubs as there will be no lucrative entry into Europe next season should either club lose both matches. The UEFA Cup place for the Coca-Cola Cup-winners would go to the third-placed team in the League.

Arsenal are never easily overcome, and if Ian Wright is on form they must stand every chance, but Wednesday have winners of their own in Waddle, Paul Warhurst and Hirst, despite his injury problems.

They also have one card Arsenal cannot match: player-manager Trevor Francis could well go on at some stage of either game, or both if need be.

JOHN KELLY



Gunning for glory . . . Tony Adams celebrates his winner for Arsenal against Spurs.

Heading for the Final . . . Mark Bright and David Hirst celebrate Wednesday's winner (above).

Milking the applause . . . Alan Cork and Franz Carr (7) enjoy United's equaliser (left).

One down, two to go?

ON the League front, a superb performance by Manchester United gave them a 3-1 win at Norwich that might well have reduced the contenders to two, United and Aston Villa.

But even now Norwich might come back, as they have done so often this season.

To win the first Premier League title with an unsung bunch of players, many cast off by bigger and wealther clubs, would make many people happy, but realistically United and Villa, who recently drew 1-1 at Old Trafford, now have the race to themselves.

The destination of the title could go to the final day of the season, which must be terrifying United. Their last match is away to Wimbledon.

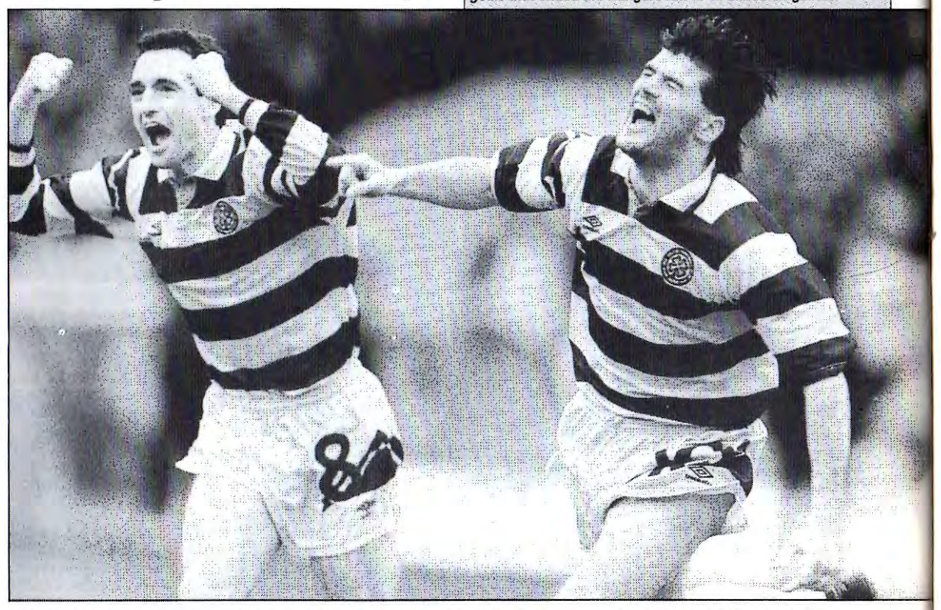
The relegation battle is even tighter. Wimbledon and Southampton appear safe, Ipswich have plummeted into danger, either of the Liverpool clubs could fall, and Leeds may repeat Manchester City's feat of the 1930s by going down as reigning champions.

My view is that they will all escape and that the three to go will be from the current bottom five: Crystal Palace, Sheffield United, Oldham, Middlesbrough and Forest.

Middlesbrough boss Lennie Lawrence, a veteran relegation battler, faces his most difficult task yet in trying to rescue a team who do desperately badly at home. And, as the games to play run out, Brian Clough — recently created a Freeman of the City of Nottingham — seems to be in the same capsizing boat and sinking into the River Trent. Sad, but true.

A bump with the buffers

But only a little bump



Record breakers . . . McStay (8) and Payton celebrate one of the goals that ended the Rangers run of 44 unbeaten games.

EVERYONE connected with Rangers acknowledged that their team's unbeaten run was destined to reach its inevitable conclusion some time.

But fate played a cruel trick by decreeing that the runaway train from Ibrox hit the buffers at the home of their greatest rivals, Celtic.

Goals from John Collins and Andy Payton helped to end a run of 44 unbeaten games in all competitions, but although Liam Brady and his men relished their moment of glory, the win constituted little more than a small island of optimism amid a turbulent ocean of despair.

Once-great Celtic face the unmistakeable reality of a trophy-less season for the fourth time in succession, and must look on in envy while their city rivals continue to carve out a growing reputation in European football as a result of their efforts in the Champions League, as well as their seemingly unassailable dominance of domestic competition.

"The result has given everyone at the club a lift," said Brady after the Old Firm game, but he, more than anyone, must realise that the success-starved Celtic fans demand a more tangible return for their loyalty.

As we reported last month in *WORLD SOCCER*, Scottish football will shortly be losing one of its best-known personalities when Jim McLean retires as manager of Dundee United after 21 years.

McLean, who will retain his position as chairman/director, is revered for the manner in which he transformed the club from a mediocre, mid-division outfit into a victorious, respected side with notable success at domestic level over the past two decades, and a UEFA Cup Final appearance in 1987.

Assistant Paul Sturrock, one of McLean's teenage discoveries in the early 1970s, appears the obvious choice as successor, but several others have been suggested, including former club captain Paul Hegarty and ex-Manchester United full back Jimmy Nicholl, now in charge of Raith Rovers.

Raith seem certain of promotion to the Premier Division, where they have never participated, having led the First Division ever since their remarkable 7-0 victory over St Mirren on the opening day. The directors will be anxious to retain Nicholl, despite the expected overtures from bigger clubs such as Dundee United.

The Scottish international team continued preparation for the vital World Cup qualifier against Portugal with a friendly at Ibrox against Germany.

Despite being severely handicapped by the non-availably of numerous players, Andy Roxburgh's makeshift side restricted the Germans to a 1-0 win. The goal came after a rare mistake by centre-half Craig Levein, who misjudged a long punt, allowing Karlheinz Riedle to nip in behind him and stab the ball home.

Levein, the Hearts defender, was surprised to be in the squad, let alone playing. Before the match he had joked: "If Gordon McQueen has an injury, perhaps I might get a game!"

ALAN **FAIRLEY**

Winner Wilcox

CWMBRAN TOWN'S 17-game unbeaten run took them to one point behind leaders Inter Cardiff, and breaking away from the rest in the run-up that will decide the championship.

Town's Tony Wilcox took the Manager of the Month award for February and was well in line for another award as his side maintained their reputation for having the meanest defence in the League, conceding 17 goals in 30 matches, a mere five of them away.

Aberystwyth striker Kevin Morrison, for so long the League's leading scorer, now trails Ebbw Vale's Steve Woods, challenging for the European Golden Boot with 25 goals.

The fight against relegation gets tighter, with nine clubs scrapping to avoid the two relegation spots.

Llanidloes Town, for so long adrift, have started picking up points from the most unlikely sources. They lost only 2-1 to Inter Cardiff and remain defiant despite being favourites for the drop.

Abergavenny Thursdays lost 9-0 at CPD Porthmadog, and few give them much hope of survival.

The Welsh Cup Semi-finals produced duplicate results in the first leg, with Rhyl defeating Connah's Quay Nomads 2-0 and Cardiff City winning by the same score against Wrexham.

Rhyl reached the Welsh Cup Final for the fifth time, by beating Connah's Quay Nomads 2-1 on aggregate in the semi-final.

Cardiff beat Wrexham 2-0 in the first leg of their semi-final.

The Welsh World Cup campaign was revived with a 2-0 victory over Belgium in Cardiff. Goals by Ryan Giggs, on his full international debut, and Ian Rush, his 24th for his country taking him past joint-leaders Ivor Allchurch and Trevor Ford in the all-time scoring list, ensured victory in a crucial match for the Welsh.

In last month's *WORLD SOCCER* manager Terry Yorath emphasised that victory over the undefeated Belgians was vital if Wales were to retain any hopes of reaching the United States next summer.

One surprise recall to the side was Cardiff City centre-half Kevin Ratcliffe, enjoying a renaissance since being freed by Everton. After distinguishing himself in the game against Belgium he joked: "Now I can tell my grandchildren that I've played in the same side as wonderboy Ryan Giggs!"

MEL AP IOR **THOMAS**

Record breaker . . . Ian Rush scores against Belgium, his 24th goal for Wales.

'Now I can tell my grandchildren that I've played in the same side as wonderboy Ryan Giggs!'

Close to the finish

THE Irish League title race looks like maintaining its suspense right to the wire.

No team has been able to break free of the bunch, and the meeting of Linfield and Portadown on the last day could well be decisive.

Linfield had looked like building up a substantial lead over the other challengers as the teams entered the home straight. Then a surprise scoreless draw against Newry Town, struggling at the bottom, was followed by a 1-0 defeat away to fellow challengers Crusaders.

That was Linfield's first loss in 18 League games and pegged them back to a one-point advantage over Crusaders and Portadown.

There was a shock, too, when Bangor outplayed Linfield at Windsor Park in the Irish Cup quarter-final, to win 2-1.

Under-21 Republic of Ireland international Paul Byrne, who has been attracting cross-Channel interest, was outstanding for Bangor.

Linfield's immediate reaction to the slump was to take 30-year-old Graeme Harvey on loan from Airdrie. Harvey scored a hat-trick on his debut, a 5-2 victory at home to disappointing Larne.

ROY **KITSON**

NORTHERN IRELAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Linfield	26	17	6	3	43	10	57
Portadown	26	16	8	2	63	21	56
Crusaders	26	18	2	6	46	25	56
Bangor	26	17	3	6	50	27	54
Distillery	26	17	1	8	51	33	52
Glenavon	26	14	4	8	42	30	46
Glentoran	26	12	6	8	58	33	42
Ards	26	11	6	8	43	44	39
Carrick	26	11	2	13	44	50	35
Ballymena	26	10	4	12	37	39	34
Cliftonville	26	9	2	15	34	41	29
Omagh Town	26	7	5	14	33	52	26
Larne	26	7	2	17	36	57	23
Coleraine	26	5	2	19	26	54	17
Newry Town	26	4	5	17	26	67	17
Ballyclare	26	2	6	18	24	62	12

RESULTS

ENGLAND

FA PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norwich	36	19	8	9	50	49	65
Aston Villa	35	18	10	7	51	33	64
Man Utd	35	17	12	6	51	27	63
Blackburn	33	13	11	9	47	33	50
Sheffield Wed	33	13	11	9	42	37	50
Tottenham	34	13	10	11	43	49	49
QPR	35	13	9	13	47	45	48
Man City	34	13	8	13	46	39	47
Arsenal	33	13	8	12	33	30	47
Coventry	36	12	11	13	46	47	47
Wimbledon	35	12	10	13	44	41	46
Liverpool	34	12	10	12	45	44	46
Southampton	36	12	10	14	48	49	46
Chelsea	35	11	13	11	38	42	46
Everton	36	13	6	17	43	45	45
Ipswich	35	10	15	10	40	42	45
Leeds Utd	34	11	11	12	44	49	44
Crystal Palace	34	9	13	12	40	49	40
Sheffield Utd	34	10	7	17	40	44	37
Nottm. Forest	34	9	9	16	33	47	36
Oldham	34	9	8	17	47	60	35
Middlesbrough	35	8	10	17	43	60	34

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 14

MIDWEEK

COCA-COLA (LEAGUE) CUP — SEMI-FINAL, 2ND LEG

ARSENAL 2 (Linighan 7, Wright 38)
CRYSTAL PALACE 0. **Att:** 28,584.
Arsenal won 5-1 on agg.

MIDWEEK

CHELSEA 2 (Stuart 39, Spencer 80)
EVERTON 1 (Kenny 43). **Att:** 12,939.

OLDHAM 1 (Adams 26)
MANCHESTER UTD 0. **Att:** 17,016.

BLACKBURN 0
SOUTHAMPTON 0. **Att:** 13,556.

IPSWICH 0
SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Hirst 55).
Att: 16,538.

ASTON VILLA 0
TOTTENHAM 0. **Att:** 37,727.

WIMBLEDON 2 (Scales 33, Holdsworth 74)
MIDDLESBROUGH 0. **Att:** 5,821.

SHEFFIELD UTD 0
NORWICH 1 (Fox 55). **Att:** 15,583.

LIVERPOOL 1 (Rush 72)
QPR 0. **Att:** 30,370.

MAN CITY 1 (Flitcroft 33)
COVENTRY 0. **Att:** 20,092.

WEEKEND

EVERTON 3 (Cottee 15, 26, Hinchcliffe 38)
NOTTM. FOREST 0. **Att:** 21,271.

NORWICH 1 (Henry 13 o.g.)
OLDHAM 0. **Att:** 19,597.

COVENTRY 0
ARSENAL 2 (Campbell 28, Wright 29). **Att:** 15,437.

MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Nicol 15 o.g.)
LIVERPOOL 2 (Hutchison 11, Rush 81).
Att: 22,463.

LEEDS UTD 1 (Rocastle 11)
MAN CITY 0. **Att:** 30,840.

MANCHESTER UTD 1 (Hughes 57)
ASTON VILLA 1 (Staunton 53).
Att: 36,163

SOUTHAMPTON 4 (Hall 18, Le Tissier 65 pen, 89, Kenna 85)
IPSWICH 3 (Linighan 13, Goddard 35, Kiwomya 87).
Att: 15,428.

QPR 1 (Ferdinand 3)
WIMBLEDON 2 (Fashanu 7, Earle 79). **Att:** 12,270.

COCA-COLA (LEAGUE) CUP — SEMI-FINAL, 2ND LEG

SHEFFIELD WED 2 (Hirst 68, Bright 73)
BLACKBURN 1 (Andersson 75).
Att: 30,048.
Sheffield Wednesday won 6-3 on agg.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 21

WEEKEND

ARSENAL 4 (Linighan 15, Merson 16, Carter 20, 79)
SOUTHAMPTON 3 (Dowie 4, Adams 30, Le Tissier 50). **Att:** 24,149.

ASTON VILLA 2 (Yorke 2, 55)
SHEFFIELD WED 0. **Att:** 38,024.

BLACKBURN 1 (Atkins 23)
MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Hendrie 32). **Att:** 14,041.

CHELSEA 1 (Cascarino 51)
TOTTENHAM 1 (Sheringham 31 pen). **Att:** 25,157.

IPSWICH 0
COVENTRY 0. **Att:** 16,698.

LIVERPOOL 1 (Rosenthal 90)
EVERTON 0. **Att:** 44,619.

MAN CITY 1 (Quinn 57)
MANCHESTER UTD 1 (Cantona 71). **Att:** 37,136.

OLDHAM 2 (Henry 1, Adams 88)
QPR 2 (Allen 68, Sinton 73). **Att:** 10,946.

SHEFFIELD UNITED 0
CRYSTAL PALACE 1 (Coleman 44). **Att:** 18,857.

WIMBLEDON 3 (Holdsworth 16, 83, Ardley 28)
NORWICH 0. **Att:** 10,875.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 28

MIDWEEK

CRYSTAL PALACE 1 (Armstrong 18)
LIVERPOOL 1 (Rush 49). **Att:** 18,688.

LEEDS 1 (Wetherall 43)
CHELSEA 1 (Donaghy 53). **Att:** 28,135.

MIDDLESBROUGH 2 (Mohan 83, Hignett 88)
OLDHAM 3 (Bernard 30, Jobson 34, Ritchie 85).
Att: 12,290.

TOTTENHAM 3 (Anderton 24, Nayim 44, Turner 88)
MAN CITY 1 (Sheron 60). **Att:** 27,247.

EVERTON 3 (Barlow 18, Jackson 49, Cottee 66)
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 15,638.

SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Bright 76)
WIMBLEDON 1 (Holdsworth 90).
Att: 20,918.

NORWICH 1 (Polston 81)
ASTON VILLA 0. **Att:** 19,528.

COVENTRY 1 (Williams 18)
SHEFFIELD UTD 3 (Whitehouse 69, Deane 75, Littlejohn 86). **Att:** 12,993.

MANCHESTER UTD 0
ARSENAL 0. **Att:** 37,301.

SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Le Tissier 72)
NOTTM. FOREST 2 (Clough 4, Keane 44).
Att: 18,005.

QPR 0
BLACKBURN 3 (Ripley 23, Moran 55, Atkins 65).
Att: 10,677.

LEADING SCORERS

1	**Sheringham** (Tottenham)	15
	Shearer (Blackburn)	15
3	**Robins** (Norwich)	14
	Quinn (Coventry)	14
5	**Wright** (Arsenal)	13
	White (Man City)	13
	Cantona (Manchester Utd)	13
8	**Armstrong** (Crystal Palace)	13
	Saunders (Aston Villa)	12
10	**Le Tissier** (Southampton)	12
	Holdsworth (Wimbledon)	12
	Deane (Sheffield Utd)	12
13	**Cottee** (Everton)	11
14	**Sheron** (Manchester City)	11

Joint leader . . . Sheringham.

SCOTLAND

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	35	26	7	2	84	27	59
Aberdeen	35	22	8	5	72	26	52
Celtic	36	19	11	6	57	35	49
Hearts	36	15	12	9	38	31	42
Dundee Utd	37	15	9	13	43	39	39
St Johnstone	37	9	14	14	58	42	32
Hibernian	37	9	12	16	43	54	30
Partick	36	9	12	15	42	60	30
Dundee	37	9	10	18	42	58	28
Motherwell	36	7	12	17	37	55	26
Airdrie	37	5	15	17	29	57	25
Falkirk	37	9	6	22	48	77	24

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 14

MIDWEEK

HIBERNIAN 1 (McGinlay 45)
ABERDEEN 2 (Kane 81, Paatelainen 88). **Att:** 7,031.

FALKIRK 1 (Cadette 85)
DUNDEE 0. **Att:** 3,452.

CELTIC 1 (Payton 85)
HEARTS 0. **Att:** 16,984.

DUNDEE UNITED 0
MOTHERWELL 0. **Att:** 5,134.

ARDRIE 2 (Honor 50, Coyle 80)
PARTICK 2 (Cameron 32 pen, Irons 88). **Att:** 2,800.

ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Wright 52)
RANGERS 1 (McCoist 80). **Att:** 9,210.

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 2 (Roddie 62, Oliver 75 o.g.)
FALKIRK 2 (Drinkell 53, Johnston 84). **Att:** 9,000.

DUNDEE 1 (Dodds 77)
AIRDRIE 1 (Smith 59). **Att:** 3,079.

HEARTS 1 (Baird 20)
DUNDEE UTD 0. **Att:** 7,087.

PARTICK 1 (Farningham 59)
ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Davies 41).
Att: 6,000.

RANGERS 3 (Hagen 40, Hateley 41, McCoist 84)
HIBERNIAN 0. **Att:** 41,076.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 21

WEEKEND

CELTIC 2 (Collins 37, Payton 52)
RANGERS 1 (Hateley 84). **Att:** 53,241.

DUNDEE 1 (Snelders 71 og)
ABERDEEN 2 (Paatelainen 2, Booth 51)
Att: 5,933.

FALKIRK 0
AIRDRIE 1 (Smith 24).
Att: 4,172.

HEARTS 1 (Robertson 60)
HIBERNIAN 0.
Att: 13,740.

Leader . . . McCoist.

MOTHERWELL 2 (Kirk 30, McGrillen 35)
PARTICK 3 (Farningham 57, McGlashan 62, Jamieson 71). **Att:** 6,499.

ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Dunne 30)
DUNDEE UTD 4 (McInally 14, O'Neil 29, 69, Connolly 59). **Att:** 4,510.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 28

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 1 (Booth 40)
MOTHERWELL 0. **Att:** 9,500.

AIRDRIE 1 (Coyle 75)
ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Redford 86).
Att: 2,200.

DUNDEE UTD 2 (Connolly 65, Ferguson 89)
CELTIC 3 (McAvennie 11, Galloway 59, Collins 78).
Att: 11,353.

HIBERNIAN 1 (McGinlay 16)
FALKIRK 1 (Sloan 13). **Att:** 5,187.

PARTICK 1 (Farningham 24)
HEARTS 1 (Preston 70). **Att:** 5,146.

RANGERS 3 (McCall 15, McCoist 52, Ferguson 62)
DUNDEE 0. **Att:** 40,294.

LEADING SCORERS

1	**McCoist** (Rangers)	33
2	**Hateley** (Rangers)	18
3	**Dodds** (Dundee)	14
	Shearer (Aberdeen)	14
5	**Payton** (Celtic)	13
	Wright (St Johnstone)	13
7	**Ferguson** (Dundee Utd)	12
	Paatelainen (Aberdeen)	12
	Jackson (Hibernian)	12
10	**Jess** (Aberdeen)	12

Parreira's own do him down

IF Brazil's opponents in their World Cup qualifying group were ever contemplating launching a campaign to disrupt Carlos Alberto Parreira's preparations, they need not bother.

The job has been done for them already, and not even the most fiendishly evil plot that Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador and Uruguay could have devised would have proved as effective.

Parreira's preparations have been ruined and the culprits come from within. They are none other than Brazil's own clubs and football directors.

Parreira had accepted that he would have to go to the US Cup '93 — where Brazil face England, Germany and the US — and the Copa America without most of his exiled first-choice players, who are likely to have commitments with their European clubs. He had resigned himself to the fact that Brazil will not be able to play any friendlies between March and June because the directors have drawn up a calendar which has most leading clubs playing three matches a week.

Now he discovers that he could have to do without players from Sao Paulo, Palmeiras and Corinthians in the US Cup: the final stage of the Sao Paulo championship, brilliantly timed by the federation, will be played at the same time. The potential absentees include Rai, Muller, Cafu, Vitor, Zetti, Edmundo, Evair, Cesar Sampaio and Neto.

Naturally the clubs will refuse to release their players and Parreira cannot expect backing from the CBF, who in the past have shown more interest in appeasing the Sao Paulo and other regional federations than in helping their unfortunate national team manager.

The story is the same as in the build-up to the 1990 World Cup, when CBF president Ricardo Teixeira released several players from Brazil's training camp to allow them to play in the final stages of the discredited Rio de Janeiro championship.

Poor Parreira. Not even Brazil's fiercest rivals could have done so much damage to his plans.

Coaching time . . . Parreira in action.

Back on the domestic front, it was a case of football, football and more football.

Flamengo's fans were the most bewildered, as their team played three teams called America in three competitions in the space of six days — and failed to beat any of them.

First there was a 1-1 draw against Rio's America in the Rio championship. Two days later, Flamengo crashed 3-1 at home to America of Cali in the Libertadores Cup. Then they drew 2-2 away to America of Natal (North-East Brazil) in the Brazil Cup.

Palmeiras were subjected to four games in eight days as they tried to fulfil their fixture list. This so exhausted their players that the only training they were able to do between matches was an hour's splashing about in a swimming pool!

"We're tired of just playing and playing and not having any time to see our families," said forward Edmundo.

Palmeiras still lead group A of the Sao Paulo championship despite a much-publicised row between strikers Evair, formerly of Atalanta, and Edmundo, a promising but hot-headed player bought from Vasco da Gama at the start of the year.

The two accused each other of being big-headed and visibly avoided passing the ball to each other during a 3-1 win over Ituano.

Otacilio Goncalves, the Palmeiras manager, tried to knock some sense into them and made them publicly apologise to each other, but two weeks later, during the 2-1 defeat by Juventus, they were clearly on bad terms.

Corinthians recovered from a dreadful start to go second by thrashing Santos 5-2. But it was all fairly academic, because the top six qualify for the second stage and with so many no-hopers in the group, Corinthians, Palmeiras and Sao Paulo all looked certain of their places.

Vasco da Gama's unbeaten run in the Rio championship began to take on Milan-like proportions. The team have gone 31 games without defeat in the competition, stretching back to 1991.

Flamengo's talk of winning the Libertadores Cup — the so-called Tokyo project — looked sillier all the time as the team struggled to qualify from group four, despite the generous rule allowing three of the four sides into the next round.

The team were twice outclassed by America of Cali, Renato scored only one goal before being injured, and several others seemed to be increasingly feeling the effects of so much football.

Manager Carlinhos, under enormous pressure from the supporters, eventually resigned and was replaced by Jair Pereira.

Internacional, the other Brazilian team in group four, were even worse, managing two points and two goals in their first four games and looking favourites for the chop.

BRIAN **HOMEWOOD**

Junior the Senior Senor

ERIC WEIL ON BRAZIL'S HAPPY VETERAN

THE youngest in the family is frequently called Junior, but in the case of THE Junior, Leovegildo Lins Gama, that is wrong.

At almost 39 — born on June 29, 1954 in Joao Pessoa, Pariba — Junior is the oldest member of the Brazilian "soccer family" and his dream is to play in next year's World Cup finals, when turning 40.

"The World Cup is still some way off," he says. "I renew my contract with Flamengo every six months and the moment I feel I can no longer comply with what is expected of me I will not renew it and I'll retire."

That seems unlikely in the immediate future. He is still a power at club level and still a regular in the Brazilian national squad.

"We are slowly recovering our lost prestige at national level, and Brazilian clubs won all three major international tournaments in South America last year," he says. "There is better organisation now and a change of mentality from that which Sebastiao Lazaroni tried to impose when he was coach. He tried to 'Europeanise' our game, and that was a big mistake.

"In Brazil, as in other South American countries, the game has its own characteristics, which must be respected."

Junior played from 1973 to 1984 for Flamengo, before moving to Italy to play for Torino from 1984-7 and then for Pescara until 1989, before returning to the Rio club where he had started.

Last year his career was almost ended. After allegedly butting a referee in a match, he faced a one-year suspension which, he said, would have made him retire.

"There was never any aggression on my part, as was claimed. I reacted because the referee offended me. But it was proved that I had not been aggressive, so there was no suspension."

Such a ban would have been the saddest moment of Junior's life. He really enjoys his soccer even after all these years.

He says: "I am part of a special generation of players in my country who lived this phenomenon called soccer as a'sane madness' and were happy to play a lovely sport.

"I've lived in a state of 'perpetual fascination' as a journalist once wrote about my style of play.

"I always enjoyed making the fans happy. The game has never been work or pressure for me. I only aim to transmit the immense joy I get from being in contact with the ball.

"My generation felt this exactly. Money and fame did not matter to us. We just wanted to play and enjoy ourselves."

He adds: "They were an extraordinary group of players in 1970. We had Pele, Rivelino, Tostao, Gerson, Jairzinho, Clodoaldo and Carlos Alberto. They settled matches when they wanted to! There was no point in talking about tactics and strategy. Brazil's was beautiful soccer at its maximum — perfection, total football.

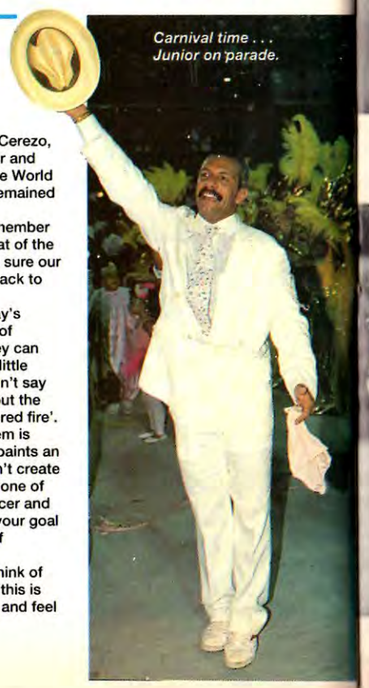
"Twelve years later we had Toninho Cerezo, Socrates, Falcao, Eder and Zico. We didn't win the World Cup in 1982, but we remained true to our style.

"I'm sure people remember our play more than that of the winners, Italy, and I'm sure our true style will get us back to the top.

"Unfortunately, today's youngsters think first of money. They think they can reach the top with as little work as possible. I don't say they are all like that, but the majority lack that 'sacred fire'.

"The capitalist system is basically perverse. It paints an ideal world, but doesn't create the conditions to find one of the best things in soccer and life itself — reaching your goal by thinking in terms of teamwork.

"One must always think of others and in the end this is the best way to enjoy and feel your game."



Carnival time . . . Junior on parade.

Gomez back in charge

THE coach at Atletico Nacional, Hernan Dario Gomez, is the new coach of the Colombian national side, again.

This follows the surprise withdrawal of Francisco Maturana, coach at America Cali, who had held the national job from 1987 to 1990 and had been re-appointed in December.

He bowed out saying: "Everyone knows that the foundation of the Colombian side is Nacional and as such it is better that they are led by Hernan Dario, who knows his players perfectly.

"Nacional play a type of football which is more aggressive and more dynamic than the rest of Colombia. I'm different . . . and for this reason I say that Hernan is better than myself at the moment and I have to leave to allow him to do his work."

On the playing front, Colombia may have some severe problems.

Carlos Valderrama, the skipper, appeared on TV to say that he would not play for the national side unless Maturana was still coach, and Faustino Asprilla has been unsure whether he wants to commit himself to both the Copa America and then World Cup games against Argentina, Paraguay and Peru.

Not surprisingly he is feeling the effects of a long Italian season at Parma.

If anyone is going to change Asprilla's mind, it will be Gomez, his mentor at Nacional.

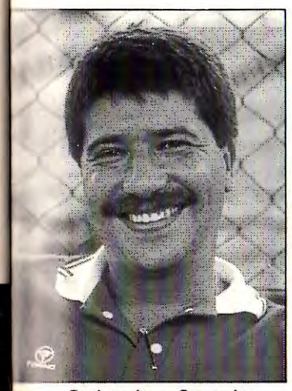
Andres Escobar and Rene Higuita are out. Escobar had an operation on his right knee and will be out until September: Higuita has fractured the tibia in his right leg and will be out for at least six months.

Deportivo Cali and Nacional led the respective groups of eight in the opening phase of the championship.

Cali, despite the unwelcome distraction of losing coach Miguel Company, have done well for his replacement, Carlos Portela, at first appointed as a stop-gap but then given the job on a full-time basis.

Portela, 52, has been with the club in various posts for 20 years — most notably as reserve coach.

KEITH **SMITH**



Back again . . . Gomez has resumed the national job.

Needing a rest . . . Asprilla is feeling the strain.

Panama

Panama win on a spin

PANAMA, not generally associated with soccer, qualified for the final round of the Gold Cup tournament — the CONCACAF championship — for the first time, on the toss of a coin.

They did so without their best-known players, the Dely Valdez brothers. But this was the strange ending to a long story.

Guatemala withdrew from the UNCAF (Union Centroamericana de Futbbol) Championship, which qualifies three teams for the Gold Cup. Their withdrawal — for financial reasons and the last-minute loss of their Argentine coach, Angel Brindisi, for the same reason, gave Panama a walk-over into the four-team final round.

El Salvador's coach, Jorge Viera, was against participating with his top national side for fear of exposing them to future World Cup qualifying rivals Honduras.

Without El Salvador there would have been no need to play a final round to eliminate one nation.

Lengthy negotiations followed and El Salvador were first going to send a junior team and finally sent a team with only about 70 per cent of their top players . . . and they paid for it.

Honduras took first place by winning their three matches, and Costa Rica were second with a 2-1 record.

El Salvador and Panama were last with identical goal differences, and they had drawn 1-1, so a toss was needed to separate them.

Nicolas Suazo was leading scorer with five goals — no other player scored more than one — after grabbing all three for Honduras in their 3-0 win over El Salvador in the last match.

Honduras, Costa Rica and Panama now go forward to the Gold Cup tournament in Dallas and Monterrey (Mexico) with Mexico, US, Canada and two teams still to qualify from the Caribbean zone.

Argentina

Acosta and Diaz on the move

AFTER five games of the National A Division's closing championship, Estudiantes de La Plata — who had been fighting to get clear of the relegation zone earlier in the season — were surprise joint leaders, and top scorers with 10 goals.

Velez Sarsfield, with former international Sergio Zarate back from Italy, shared first place.

Boca Juniors, who won the opening championship, were a point behind, still failing in the scoring department in spite of acquiring the opening championship's top scorer, Alberto Acosta, from San Lorenzo.

Boca's eternal rivals, River Plate, were doing worse. In most matches they were the better team, but poor finishing and luck let them down.

They also lost veteran scorer Ramon Diaz, a former international, who joined the trail to Japan and signed for Nissan.

Hooliganism resulted in the death of yet another fan, attacked by a gang in Cordoba.

Stern measures, which never last long, resulted in some clubs not letting in their so called "barras bravas" while at other venues police rounded them up before the match.

Off to Japan . . . Ramon Diaz (above) has signed for Nissan.

Off to Boca Juniors . . . Alberto Acosta has left San Lorenzo.

That's novel

Coach Carlos learns from basketball

CARLOS GRIGUOL, long-serving coach of Argentine National A Division club Ferro Carril Oeste, can be seen at most of the club's National Basketball League matches.

Griguol, who went close to becoming national team coach when Cesar Menotti was given the job in 1974 — Menotti won the First Division with Huracan, Griguol took the national title with Rosario Central — has done some wonderful things lately with modest and inexperienced FC Oeste teams.

He is a great basketball enthusiast, and says you can use many basketball tactics in soccer. "I watch as many games as I can, and the US National Basketball Association matches on cable TV," he adds.

"Tactics are very important in basketball and many of the dead-ball situations can be applied to soccer."

Griguol has had long talks with the club's basketball coach, Leon Najnudel, which have been very helpful, while Najnudel said that he also took a lot of ideas from soccer.

"For example, one can learn player-placing in one part of the court when the ball is in another," says Griguol.

At one time FC Oeste copied their corner-kick tactics from the other game.

"We did this in 1981 and still sometimes do it now," says Griguol.

"A sports magazine wrote at the time: 'One has to watch the scrums made by the Ferro defence,' but it was a tactic taken from basketball, not rugby.

"It was a case of forming vertical and horizontal 'curtains' to leave one receiver free. But this has to be worked on anew every year, because players change.

"When playing against a superior rival — which is quite frequent in our case — it is fundamental that flank defenders get help from wingers or halves.

"In basketball, a player sometimes forsakes the man he is marking to help out, or double up, with a team-mate — in other words, double-mark the man with the ball.

"I tried this in soccer, with the flank defender marking the rival with the ball on the inside and the winger or midfielder dropping back to mark on the outside.

"In defence one can use this combined marking — mixing man-for-man marking with zonal marking, as in basketball.

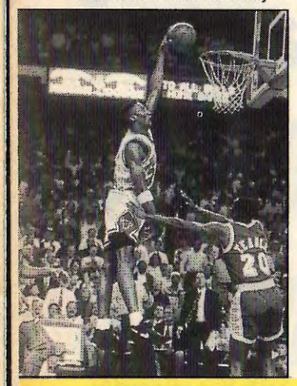
"In soccer it's harder to change because there are more players on the field, and many coaches are more conservative.

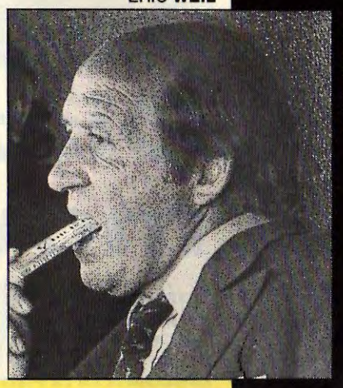
"If they can win matches with what they are doing, then they don't look for variations.

"But when a few players leave the team they can no longer do that with which they won before."

Griguol, whose soccer team — among the youngest in the National A Division — were fourth behind Boca Juniors, River Plate and San Lorenzo in this season's opening championship, continues to look for variations.

ERIC WEIL





Griguol is not afraid to borrow ideas from other sports — notably basketball.

Chile

Derby game damage

MAJOR disturbances between supporters before, during and after the match between Colo Colo and Universidad de Chile meant that future clashes between these Santiago clubs may be played behind closed doors.

Colo Colo, who lost 1-0, are seeking $20,000 dollars for damage to their stadium. Two Universidad players were injured by missiles, 66 fans were detained and an unspecified number, including police, were injured.

And this was in a pre-season tournament!

Paraguay

NEW national coach Hector Corte took over from Sergio Makarian and promptly found himself in trouble.

Corte, an Argentine, was described by one club director as too young, and another said that a Paraguayan national should have been chosen.

Makarian quit after 16 months, because of a row with the ruling body, LPF.

He wanted to pick two former World Cup players, Alfredo Mendoza and Roberto Cabanas, but the LPF insisted that the ban on the pair, who had been thrown out of the national squad in 1989 for criticising authority, should remain in force.

IN BOLIVIA, a players' strike, dragging on for a month, led the authorities to postpone the championship until September, after the South American Championship and World Cup qualifying games.

Mexico

THE First Division had six games to go before the top two teams of each of four groups and the two third-placed teams with the best records go into the title play-offs.

Clubs were having to face the last and most important part of the tournament without their internationals, now preparing for World Cup qualifying games and the CONCACAF championship.

Necaxa continued to have the best record, but had not been at their best without four internationals. Atlante needed three more points to clinch a play-off place, but were missing three top men, including championship top scorer Luis Salvador.

Popular America, much improved lately, continued in the hunt for at least a "wild card" entry to the finals (as one of the third-placed teams), the same as Mexico City rivals UNAM, but the latter have five players in the national squad.

TABLES

ARGENTINA
National A Division
Closing Championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Estudiantes	5	3	2	0	10	2	8
Velez Sarsfield	5	3	2	0	8	1	8
Boca Juniors	5	2	3	0	8	4	7
Independiente	5	2	2	1	9	6	6
Lanus	5	2	2	1	3	2	6
San Lorenzo	5	2	1	2	7	5	5
Belgrano	5	1	3	1	4	3	5
Dep. Espanol	5	2	1	2	5	5	5
Platense	5	2	1	2	3	3	5
River Plate	5	2	1	2	6	7	5
FC Oeste	5	2	1	2	4	5	5
Argentinos Jun.	5	1	3	1	2	3	5
Dep. Mandiyu	5	1	3	1	5	7	5
Racing Club	5	3	0	2	5	6	6
Rosario Central	5	1	2	2	5	6	4
Gimnasia	5	0	4	1	4	5	4
Huracan	5	1	2	2	5	8	4
Talleres	5	0	3	2	5	9	3
Newells OB	5	0	3	2	1	6	3
San Martin	5	0	1	4	2	9	1

COLOMBIA
Opening Championship
(1st Division)
Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dep. Cali	4	3	1	0	9	3	7
America Cali	4	3	0	1	11	6	6
Once Philips	4	2	1	1	8	4	5
Millonarios	4	1	2	1	6	7	4
Huila	4	1	1	2	6	8	3
Indep. Santa Fe	4	1	1	2	5	7	3
Pereira	4	1	1	2	4	7	3
Tolima	4	0	1	3	3	10	1
Group B							
At. Nacional	4	2	2	0	9	5	6
At. Junior	4	2	1	1	7	3	5
Ind. Medellin	4	2	1	1	7	6	5
Union Magdalena	4	2	1	1	6	7	5
Bucaramanga	4	2	0	2	6	7	4
Quindio	4	1	1	2	5	6	3
Cucuta	4	0	2	2	3	5	2
Envigado	4	0	2	2	4	7	2

BRAZIL
Sao Paulo State League
Group A (Upper Group)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Palmeiras	14	8	5	1	30	13	21
Santos	14	8	4	2	27	16	20
Sao Paulo	14	8	3	3	28	11	19
Rio Branco	14	6	7	1	21	13	19
Mogi Mirim	14	6	6	2	21	15	18
Corinthians	14	7	3	4	23	14	17
Uniao Sao Joao	14	6	5	3	27	17	17
Bragantino	14	7	2	5	18	14	16
Guarani	14	6	3	5	19	24	15
Ponte Preta	14	3	4	7	16	23	10
Portuguesa	14	2	6	6	17	24	10
XV de Piracicaba	13	1	8	4	12	20	10
Marilia	14	2	5	7	15	20	9
Ituano	14	3	2	9	14	23	8
Noroeste	14	3	2	9	9	29	8
Juventus	13	2	3	8	15	30	7

Group B (Lower Group)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
America	13	8	4	1	17	9	17
Novorizontino	13	7	3	3	24	17	17
Ferroviaria	13	6	5	2	24	12	17
Saocariense	13	5	6	2	20	13	16
XV de Jau	13	6	3	4	21	15	15
Taquaritinga	13	5	4	4	14	13	14
Aracatuba	13	5	4	4	16	16	14
San Jose	12	4	5	3	15	15	13
Santo Andre	13	4	5	4	15	18	13
Sao Caetano	13	5	2	6	19	19	12
Botafogo	12	4	3	5	11	11	11
Inter Limeira	13	2	4	7	12	21	8
Olimpia	13	2	4	7	12	22	8
Catanduvense	13	1	3	9	9	28	5

Top six of group A and top two of group B qualify for quarter-finals at end of regular championship.

COSTA RICA
First Division
After 22 games: 1. Herediano 32; 2. Alajuelense 29; 3. Cartajines 27; 4. El Carmen 24; 5. Saprissa, Prez Zeledon, Turrialba 23; 8.Puntarenas 22; 9. Ramonense 20; 10. Limon 19; 11. Guancaste 14; 12.San Carlos 10.

Guanabara State Championship
(1st stage)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fluminense	6	5	1	0	10	4	11
Vasco da Gama	5	4	1	0	15	3	9
Botafogo	6	4	1	1	13	5	9
Flamengo	6	4	1	1	11	6	9
Americo/Rio	5	2	3	0	9	5	7
Volta Redonda	6	2	1	3	7	8	5
Bangu	6	2	1	3	5	9	5
Americano	6	1	2	3	6	13	4
Olaria	6	0	3	3	8	13	3
America/Tres Rios	6	0	3	3	2	10	3
Sao Cristovao	5	0	2	3	3	6	2
Entrerriense	6	0	2	4	3	9	2

PERU
First Division (1st round)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Alianza Lima	3	3	0	0	6	3	6
Carlos Manucci	3	2	1	0	7	4	5
Sporting Cristal	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Melgar	2	2	0	0	6	2	4
Dep. Municipal	3	2	0	1	7	4	4
Union Huaral	3	1	2	0	9	7	4
Sport Boys	3	1	1	1	10	5	3
Universitario	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Deportivo Sipesa	3	1	0	2	2	3	2
Cienciano Cusco	3	1	0	2	3	5	2
Leon de Huanuco	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Defensor Lima	3	1	0	2	3	5	2
UT Cajamarca	3	1	0	2	3	11	2
Dep. San Agustin	3	0	1	2	3	5	1
Alianza Sullana	3	0	1	2	3	8	1
UM Cerro Pasco	3	0	0	3	0	4	0

GUATELMALA
First Division — final round

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Aurora	5	4	1	0	9
Suchitepequez	5	2	1	2	5
Izabal	5	2	1	2	5
Comunicaciones	5	2	1	2	5
Galcasa	5	2	0	3	4
Amatitlan	5	1	0	4	2

EL SALVADOR
First Division
After 29 games: 1. Luis A. Firpo 39; 2. FAS 38; 3. Baygon-ADET 33; 4. At. Marte, Alianza 30; 6. Cojutepeque 29; 7. Aguila, Tiburones 24; 9. Apaneca 23; 10. Fuerte San Francisco 20.

HONDURAS
First Division
After 25 games: 1. Olimpia 34; 2. Marathon, Petrotela 32; 4. Real Espana 29; 5. Motagua 28; 6. Victoria 26; 7. Platense 25; 8. Real Maya 22; 9. Vida 14; 10. Super Estrella 5.

VENEZUELA
First Division

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Mineros Guyana	20	12	4	4	28
Minerven	21	11	6	4	28
Caracas FC	20	12	3	5	27
Maritimo	21	11	5	5	27
Tachira	20	12	2	6	26
Lara	20	9	8	3	26
Monagas	20	10	4	6	24
Anzoategui	20	8	8	4	24
Estudiantes	20	10	4	6	24
Trujillanos	20	7	9	4	23
Llaneros	20	5	8	7	18
Univ. Los Andes	20	2	8	10	12
Galicia	20	2	7	11	11
Italia	20	3	4	13	10
Zamora	20	2	4	14	8
Portuguesa	20	1	4	15	6

MEXICO
First Division
Group 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atlante	32	13	10	9	58	35	36
Veracruz	32	12	7	13	49	46	31
Queretaro	32	10	6	16	26	44	26
Santos	32	6	10	16	30	57	22
Tamaulipas	32	5	9	18	22	48	19
Group 2							
Necaxa	32	20	6	6	66	35	46
UA Guadalajara	32	13	13	6	34	24	39
America	32	15	8	9	41	36	38
Puebla	32	13	10	9	47	45	36
Morelia	32	8	11	13	37	51	27
Group 3							
UN Leon	32	13	12	7	51	46	38
Cruz Azul	32	13	8	11	53	39	34
Atlas	32	11	9	12	44	44	31
Guadalajara	32	9	9	14	36	46	27
Univ. Guadalajara	32	8	11	13	32	45	27
Group 4							
Leon	32	16	10	6	57	31	42
Monterrey	32	13	13	6	42	33	39
UNAM	32	14	8	10	60	47	36
Toluca	32	5	13	14	40	44	23
Pachuca	32	8	7	17	33	43	23

Top two teams in each group automatically qualify for quarter finals.

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22 FEBRUARY MONDAY

GERMANY: Karlsruhe insist that they will hold revelation of the season Sergei Kiriakov to his contract, which runs until 1995. The player had claimed interest from Barcelona . . . Bayern general manager Uli Hoeness predicts an increasing importance for club football and diminishing role for national teams within the European Community.

ITALY: Veteran defenders Tassotti and Vierchowod are recalled to Italy's line-up for the World Cup tie against Portugal in Oporto.

SPAIN: Maradona heads back to Buenos Aires for the Franchi Trophy match against Denmark.

23 FEBRUARY TUESDAY

ACTION: Portugal beat Italy 2-0 in a European under-21 tie, provoking an attack on the number of imports into Italian football from under-21 boss Cesare Maldini . . . Holland lose 1-0 at home to Turkey in the European under-21 Championship.

SPAIN: Sevilla president Luis Cuervas warns that disciplinary action is possible against Maradona and fellow Argentine Diego Simeone for their to-and-fro transatlantic escapades to play for Argentina against Brazil and Denmark.

24 FEBRUARY WEDNESDAY

ACTION: Argentina beat Denmark 5-4 on penalties after a 1-1 draw to win the Franchi Trophy awarded for competition between the national team champions of South America and Europe. On an individual level, Maradona is outshone by Denmark's Brian Laudrup . . . Italy win well, by 3-1, away to Portugal in the World Cup qualifiers; Holland stroll to a 3-1 victory over Turkey; Spain easily beat Lithuania 5-0 . . . Rene Higuita drops an Italia '90-type clanger and hands Renato a simple goal as Colombia's Atletico Nacional lose 1-0 to Flamengo in the Libertadores Cup. This is Nacional's first home defeat by foreign opposition in 18 years of competition.

ENGLAND: Domestic football is shocked by the death at 51, from cancer, of 1966 World Cup-winning captain Bobby Moore.

UNITED STATES: US '94 officials are delighted that domestic first round tickets have been virtually sold out for Chicago, New York and Washington. However there are fears that not enough tickets may have been held back for USSF "family" private sale demands.

25 FEBRUARY THURSDAY

AUSTRALIA: Brazil coach Julio Leal, arriving for the World Youth Cup, singles out holders Portugal as their most dangerous rivals.

ENGLAND: Tottenham end speculation by releasing starlet Nick Barmby, after all, to play for England at the World Youth Cup in Australia.

FRANCE: Bad day for Marseille: they lose 1-0 to Monaco, who thus replace them at the top of the championship and Voller (ribs) and Boli (knee) suffer injuries which make them doubtful for the Champions League duel with CSKA Moscow . . . Paris Saint-Germain are furious at the FFF order that their home domestic Cup tie against Strasbourg should be played 120 miles away in Nancy because of the unavailability, through pitch relaying, of the Parc des Princes.

JAPAN: Nissan sign veteran River Plate striker Ramon Diaz; AS Flugels sign Brazil midfielder Edu.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA's club football committee, set up to study problems such as "overflow" in Italy and the need to compile a coordinated international calendar, holds its first meeting in Zurich.

26 FEBRUARY FRIDAY

ACTION: Algeria beat Ghana 2-1 to secure their place in the second round of the African World Cup qualifiers . . . River Plate gain their first point in the current Libertadores Cup, forcing a 1-1 draw away to Olimpia in Asuncion.

BULGARIA: The Sports Ministry heads off a threatened football strike by promising that new entertainment industry taxes will not be applied to sport.

CYPRUS: First Division players call off their strike as a goodwil gesture towards negotiations on their claim of guaranteed free transfers at the age of 32.

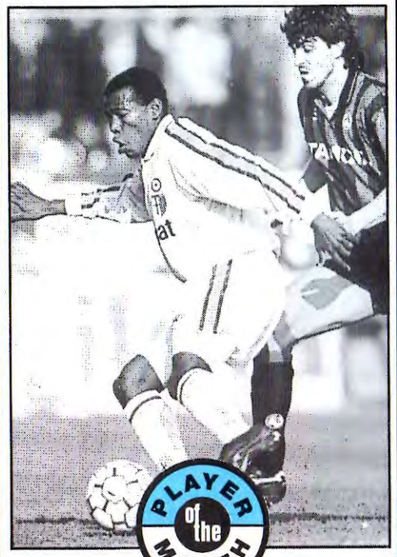
ENGLAND: The players union says it will start to tighten up on consideration of work permits for foreign imports.

FRANCE: Paris SG, with FFF approval, arrange to play their disputed Cup tie against Strasbourg on their opponents ground.

ITALY: Lazio president Sergio Cragnotti is among the latest list of names released for investigation in the current national political/industrial corruption saga.

JAPAN: Saburo Kawabuchi, president of the J-League, forecasts a budgeted loss of £150 million over the first five years of its existence.

MEXICO: Hugo Sanchez is recalled to the national squad for the final round of World Cup qualifiers.



PLAYER of the MONTH

Faustino Asprilla (Parma) . . .

for the brilliant free-kick which ended Milan's near-two-year unbeaten run in the Italian League, and for his stunning strike against Sparta Prague in the Cup-winners' Cup.

27 FEBRUARY SATURDAY

ACTION: Nigeria, Senegal and Guinea follow Algeria in securing their places in the next round of the World Cup's African qualifying section . . . Club Brugge fight back from 3-1 down to draw 3-3 against bottom team Lommel and are jeered from the pitch by their own fans . . . Real Madrid edge ahead of La Coruna at the top of the Spanish League after beating "Super Depor" 2-1 in the Estadio Bernabeu. La Coruna miss a penalty and have two players sent off after taking an early lead.

ENGLAND: The International Board, meeting north of London, decide to experiment with kick-ins instead of throw-ins at the UEFA under-16 tournament in Turkey in May then in the World Junior Championship in Japan; to permit three substitutions in official competitions from July (two outfield substitutes plus the goalkeeper at any time); to institute sudden death when teams are level after normal time at the forthcoming World Youth Cup and to permit its use in the J-League in Japan; to allow coaching from specified touchline areas; to impress upon all referees and federations the need to enforce the four-step rule for goalkeepers; to tighten up wording of the backpass rule to prevent the use of tricks; to allow the taking of a free kick for offside in the goal area to be taken from any point (in line with the new goal kick amendment); and to formalise the role of the fourth member of the refereeing team in international competition.

28 FEBRUARY SUNDAY

ACTION: Egypt beat Zimbabwe 2-1 and apparently qualify for the next African round of World Cup qualifiers but Zimbabwe protest that their players and coaches were struck by missiles thrown from the crowd in the Nasser stadium in Cairo. Morocco and Zambia also qualify, more peacefully, for the next round . . . angry River Plate fans jeer coach Passarella after a 2-0 defeat by Estudiantes de La Plata . . . Sao Paulo coach Tele Santana is sent off by the referee during the world club champions' 2-0 state league win over Bragantino. Santana, a consistent outspoken critic of rough play, was angry at what he perceived as the referee's leniency towards Bragantino's tackling . . . Paul Gascoigne is sent off for the fourth time in his career as Lazio come back from 2-0 down to beat Genoa 3-2 . . . Stoichkov and Salinas score two goals each as Barcelona thrash Gijon 7-2.

GERMANY: Koln, beaten 2-1 the previous day by Eintracht Frankfurt, finally dismiss coach Jorg Berger. Wolfgang Jerat, from Second Division Wuppertal, is the surprise choice as replacement.

1 MARCH MONDAY

ACTION: Cameroon complete the qualifying list from the World Cup's much-confused African first round despite being held 0-0 at home by Zaire.

BELGIUM: Gent dismiss coach Rene Vandereycken.

FRANCE: Marseille defender Basile Boli, instead of flying with his team-mates to Berlin for the Champions League tie against CSKA Moscow, undergoes knee surgery after being injured last week against Monaco.

GERMANY: Koln agree to sell veteran Pierre Littbarski to his new Japanese club, JEF Furukawa, before the end of the German season.

ITALY: Genoa dismiss Gigi Maifredi as coach and appoint youth manager Claudio Maselli as caretaker, their third trainer in a season . . . Cesena, struggling against relegation from the Second Division, appoint ex-Italy boss Azeglio Vicini as replacement for Gaetano Salvemini.

OMAN: Oman say they will compete in the World Cup Asian qualifiers after the FA's earlier decision to withdraw is overturned by the Sports Ministry.

2 MARCH TUESDAY

ACTION: Feyenoord Isoe 1-0 at home to Moscow Spartak in the Cup-winners' Cup . . . in the UEFA Cup, Real Madrid beat Paris Saint-Germain 3-1 and Roma beat Borussia Dortmund 1-0.

ENGLAND: Eric Cantona is charged by the FA over an alleged spitting incident at the end of Manchester United's visit to Leeds, his former club.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA says dope testing at the World Cup finals will be stepped up with three players per team selected from the second round onwards rather than the standard two.

Hungary's Jozsef Duro fouls Nikos Niobblias of Greece during the Greeks' 1-0 win in Budapest.

TEAM of the MONTH

Greece . . .

for taking a giant stride closer to their first appearance in the World Cup finals thanks to a 1-0 win over Hungary in Budapest.

3 MARCH WEDNESDAY

ACTION: Champions League action resumes with Milan winning 1-0 at Porto and PSV Eindhoven falling sensationally by 3-1 at home to IFK Gothenburg in Group B. Action in Group A brings 1-1 draws in Brugge (v Rangers) and in Berlin's Olympic stadium, where CSKA Moscow are home from home (v Marseille) . . . in the Cup-winners' Cup Sparta draw 0-0 with Parma . . . in the UEFA Cup Auxerre surprisingly beat holders Ajax 4-2 . . . the United States and Canada draw 2-2 in Costa Mesa, California.

ITALY: Paul Gascoigne is suspended for one match for his weekend expulsion against Genoa.

SPAIN: Barcelona go top of the table after winning their postponed match against Oviedo by 2-0 . . . Real Madrid midfielder Luis Milla is fined £5,000 by the Spanish federation for making unsubstantiated claims about an alleged bribe attempt before the last round of matches last season.

UNITED STATES: Lamar Hunt, co-chairman of the Dallas World Cup operation, defends the local organisational effort after criticism of the costs from local councillors.

4 MARCH THURSDAY

ACTION: Benfica beat Juventus 2-1 in a UEFA Cup quarter-final first leg . . . Olympiakos draw 1-1 against Atletico Madrid in the Cup-winners' Cup.

SPAIN: UEFA president Lennart Johansson says that the Champions' Cup and UEFA Cup may be merged in 1994-95 into a first European League.

5 MARCH FRIDAY

ACTION: Australia open the World Youth Cup by defeating Colombia 2-1 in Sydney.

ITALY: Milan sign former Sampdoria keeper Guido Bistazzoni as emergency cover for Rossi and Cudicini after Antonioli, just back from a lengthy injury spell, damages knee ligaments in his first full training session since recovery.

6 MARCH SATURDAY

ACTION: Defending title-holders Portugal lose the first match in defence of the World Youth Cup by 1-0 to Germany . . . a 27th-minute goal from man-of-the-match Lothar Matthaus is enough for Bayern Munich to beat closest pursuers Eintracht Frankfurt 1-0 . . . top flight Lyon lose 1-0 to the part-timers of Pont-Saint-Esprit in the first round proper of the French Cup.

7 MARCH SUNDAY

ACTION: Hungary's senior national team — with Detari and Kiprich — beat Japan 1-0 in the opening match of the Kirin Cup in Fukuoka . . . a World Youth Cup shock for European champions Turkey, who are thrashed 6-0 by the United States . . . Gent draw 1-1 with Cercle in an eventful game in Belgium where Eric Viscaal goes in goal after Zsolt Petry is sent off then comes upfield in the last minute to convert the penalty which earns a point . . . a pitch invasion interrupts the closing minutes of the English FA Cup quarter-final in which Manchester City lose 4-2 at home to Tottenham, for whom Nayim scores a hat-trick . . . Dejan Savicevic scores both goals as Milan beat Fiorentina 2-0 . . . FC Porto's lead over Benfica is cut to two points after Porto suffer a surprise 1-0 home defeat by Famalicao . . . a last-minute goal from Zamorano after a defensive blunder provides Real Marid with 2-1 win in Valencia despite the expulsion of skipper Sanchis; Barcelona have Goikoetxea sent off in the 2-0 win over Albacete; La Coruna are held 2-2 at home by Tenerife.

8 MARCH MONDAY

ENGLAND: US midfielder John Harkes is ruled out for a month after dislocating a toe in Sheffield Wednesday's 3-3 draw against Derby in an FA Cup quarter-final.

GREECE: The federation is fined £9,000 by FIFA for fireworks and other missiles thrown onto the pitch before and during the World Cup qualifier against Luxembourg.

HOLLAND: Dennis Bergkamp of Ajax (and soon of Inter) is voted Dutch Footballer of the Year for the second successive season. Fellow Ajax/Inter man Wim Jonk is runner-up with PSV's Romario third.

PARAGUAY: National manager Sergio Makarian says he may quit after the federation refuse to lift two-year national team suspensions on key players Roberto Cabanas and Alfredo Mendoza — imposed originally because of their criticisms of officials after the 1990 World Cup qualifying failure.

RUSSIA: CSKA Moscow beat Krylya Sovetov Samara 4-0 in their first match of the new Russian championship.

7 MARCH TUESDAY

ACTION: In the Central American Championship qualifiers, Costa Rica beat Panama 2-0 and Honduras defeat El Salvador 3-0 . . . in the European Under-21s, San Marino lose 2-0 at home to Turkey and Germany

CONTINUED OVER

WHAT'S ON

APRIL

SATURDAY, APRIL 17
World Cup qualifier, Europe Group 1: Malta v Switzerland.

SUNDAY, APRIL 18
World Cup qualifiers, CONCACAF final rnd: Canada v Honduras, Mexico v El Salvador. **Asia Group F:** Japan v UAE, Thailand v Bangladesh.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21
Champions' Cup group matches, 6th (final) series. Cup-winners' Cup & UEFA Cup semi-finals, 2nd leg.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group C: Indonesia v Qatar, Vietnam v North Korea.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25
World Cup qualifier, Europe Group 4: Cyprus v Faroe Islands. **CONCACAF final rnd:** Mexico v Canada, Honduras v El Salvador.

MONDAY, APRIL 26
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group C: Singapore v North Korea, Vietnam v Qatar.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28
World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 1: Portugal v Scotland. **Group 2:** England v Holland, Norway v Turkey, Poland v San Marino. **Group 3:** Rep. of Ireland v Denmark, Spain v Northern Ireland. **Group 4:** Czechoslovakia v Wales. **Group 5:** Russia v Hungary. **Group 6:** France v Sweden, Bulgaria v Finland. **Asia Group C:** Indonesia v North Korea, Singapore v Vietnam. **Group F:** Thailand v Japan, UAE v Sri Lanka.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group C: Singapore v Qatar, Indonesia v Vietnam. **Group F:** Bangladesh v Japan, Thailand v UAE.

MAY

SATURDAY, MAY 1
World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 1: Switzerland v Italy. **Asia Group E:** Macao v Saudi Arabia, Malaysia v Kuwait.

SUNDAY, MAY 2
World Cup qualifiers, CONCACAF final rnd: Honduras v Mexico, El Salvador v Canada. **Asia Group C:** Singapore v Indonesia, North Korea v Qatar.

MONDAY, MAY 3
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group E: Macao v Kuwait, Malaysia v Saudi Arabia. **Group F:** Bangladesh v UAE, Sri Lanka v Thailand.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5
UEFA Cup Final, 1st leg.
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group E: Malaysia v Macao, Kuwait v Saudi Arabia. **Group F:** Bangladesh v Thailand, Sri Lanka v Japan.

FRIDAY, MAY 7
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group D: Lebanon v India, Hong Kong v Bahrain. **Group F:** Bangladesh v Sri Lanka, UAE v Japan.

win 1-0 away to the Irish Republic . . . Portugal crash out of the World Youth Cup after losing a second match, this time by 2-1 to Uruguay; a goal from Sheffield Wednesday first-teamer Chris Bart-Williams brings England a 1-0 win over the US.

AUSTRALIA: FIFA president Joao Havelange confirms that FIFA's proposals to the IOC re the 1996 Atlanta Olympics include allowing three over-age stars in each squad in the finals plus an eight-nation women's tournament.

BRAZIL: A 22-man squad for the friendly against Poland is considered the probable Copa America selection, lacking all foreign-based players.

ENGLAND: Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar is referred to a specialist for a brain scan after complaining of headaches following Zimbabwe's World Cup tie in Egypt when he was struck by missiles.

FRANCE: Fit-again Pascal Olmeta insists he will stay on in Marseille's goal after returning for the weekend Cup victory over Martigues; coach Raymond Goethals is known to prefer Fabien Barthez.

ITALY: Torino and Juventus draw 1-1 in an Italian Cup semi-final first leg.

10 MARCH
WEDNESDAY

ACTION: Barcelona beat Werder Bremen 2-1 and 3-2 on aggregate to win the European Super Cup for the first time. Bremen goalkeeper Reck is sent off in the first half for handling outside the penalty area . . . San Marino celebrate their first-ever competitive international point after drawing 0-0 at home to Turkey in the World Cup qualifiers . . . Austria beat Greece 2-1 in a friendly . . . Japan and the United States draw 0-0 in the Kirin Cup in Nagoya . . . a busy day in the Libertadores Cup with seven matches and Universitario of Lima becoming the first certain qualifiers after a 2-2 draw with neighbours Sporting Cristal in Group One. Argentina's River Plate face almost certain elimination — and coach Daniel Passarella the sack — after only drawing 0-0 away to Newell's.

AUSTRALIA: Brazil and Mexico are warned about their disciplinary conduct following Tuesday's match when fighting broke out in the tunnel.

HOLLAND: Ajax win 3-1 away to Roda in a rearranged league game . . . international defender Henk Fraser breaks a leg as Feyenoord defeat Second Division Pec/Zwolle 5-2 in a penalty shoot-out after a 1-1 draw in their Cup quarter-final.

ITALY: Milan lose their first competitive match since last April when they go down 2-0 to Roma in Rome in an Italian Cup semi-final first leg. Milan's unlucky goalkeeper is debutant Carletto Cudicini, son of the former Champions' Cup-winning keeper Fabio Cudicini.

JAPAN: J-League officials report a staggering 900,000 ticket applications for the formal opening match on May 15 between Yomiuri and Marinos.

UNITED STATES: L.A. Police recommend the prosecution of a 17-year-old who kicks an opposing soccer player unconscious in a high school match.

11 MARCH
THURSDAY

ACTION: The World Youth Cup first round matches are completed. Qualifiers are Russia, Australia (Group A), Uruguay, Ghana (Group B), England, United States (Group C), Brazil and Mexico (Group D) — Portugal, Germany and Turkey all left at the first-round post. FIFA decides that all first-round cautions will not be carried over into the closing knock-out stages.

BELGIUM: Philippe Albert, Anderlecht's newly-elected Footballer of the Year, is suspended for six games for allegedly spitting at an opponent in a Cup tie against Second Division Geel; Standard Liege's Thierry Pfister is also banned for six games for headbutting a Lommel player in a championship game.

BOLIVIA: Federation officials cancel the championship until September because of a players' strike in support of freedom of contract demands.

BRAZIL: Josimar, former Brazil World Cup star, is charged by police in Rio with possession of cocaine.

HOLLAND: Ajax confirm the completion of negotiations with Amsterdam city council and the Dutch government to help finance a new 50,000-seat stadium. Work on the £60million project will begin in September and take three years. The new stadium will feature a sliding roof and parking for 2,500 cars.

JAPAN: Kawasaki city authorities announce plans for a 100,000-capacity stadium.

TUNISIA: National manager Mrad Mahjoub is dismissed following the World Cup qualifying failure. New man is Youssef Zouaoui, coach of Club Africain.

14 MARCH
SUNDAY

ACTION: England reached the World Youth Cup semi-finals, beating Mexico 4-3 on penalties after a 0-0 draw (after sudden death extra time). In the other quarter-final, Brazil beat the US 3-0 . . . Hungary win the Kirin Cup after Japan beat the US 3-1 in the last match . . . Manchester United are held 1-1 at home to Aston Villa in England's top-of-the-table clash; Sheffield Wednesday reach the Coca-Cola (League) Cup Final, beating Blackburn 2-1 and 6-3 on aggregate . . . Paul Gascoigne scores as Lazio hold Milan 2-2 . . . Real Madrid are held 2-2 at home by Logrones and slip one point behind leaders Barcelona.

England's Jamie Pollock gets in a shoot against Mexico.

12 MARCH
FRIDAY

FRANCE: The Parc des Princes is declared ready for business again after turf experts from Wembley complete a three-week, high-speed operation to relay the pitch.

GERMANY: Koln goalkeeper Bodo Illgner wrecks his chances of regaining his national team place when he is sent off in the 3-0 defeat by Hamburg and faces a long suspension.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA order a replay on neutral territory, probably France, of the African World Cup qualifier between Egypt and Zimbabwe. Egyptian fans had been reported by Zimbabwe and match officials of pelting visiting players with missiles during and after the match.

13 MARCH
SATURDAY

ACTION: Australia hit back from 1-0 down to beat Uruguay 2-1 in sudden-death extra time in the World Youth Cup quarter-finals. In the other quarter-final, Ghana score three times in the last 20 minutes to beat Russia 3-0 . . . Innsbruck go top in Austria, beating Wiener Sportclub 5-0 to overtake Salzburg on goal difference . . . Marseille president Bernard Tapie slams his own players in the wake of the goalless draw with Bordeaux which leaves them still level with Monaco at the top. Tapie says: "I'm ashamed. This is what happens when players don't work hard enough in training" . . . Bayern Munich and Eintracht Frankfurt win in Germany but Werder Bremen, still nursing a hangover after Wednesday's European Super Cup setback, go down 2-0 to Bochum, Bremen's first defeat in 13 games . . . Barcelona underline their command in Spain by defeating fading La Coruna 3-0.

15 MARCH
MONDAY

AUSTRALIA: FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter, attending the World Youth Cup, criticises a continuing inconsistency of interpretation of the laws among referees at the event.

EGYPT: At the Egyptians' request the African World Cup qualifying replay against Zimbabwe, set for France on February 28, is postponed to an unspecified date. This is because that date is a religious holiday in Egypt.

GERMANY: Bundesliga coaches are generally antagonistic to a suggestion from national boss Berti Vogts that the midwinter break be abandoned . . . Vogts recalls midfielder Uwe Bein to his squad for the friendly against Scotland, Bein's first call-up since he appeared as a substitute against Italy a year ago.

ROMANIA: Soldiers are called in to clear snow from the pitch in the Steaua stadium so the Cup-winners' Cup tie against Antwerp can go ahead.

SCOTLAND: National coach Andy Roxburgh names nine Rangers players in his senior and Under-21 squads for the next week's matches against Germany and Iceland. Meanwhile Rangers fear five or six players may not be fit to face Brugge in the Champions League tie on Wednesday.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA warns Atletico Madrid and Olympiakos Piraeus to be on their best behaviour in the return Cup-winners' Cup tie after hostilities at the first leg.

16 MARCH
TUESDAY

ACTION: UEFA Cup holders Ajax are knocked out, beating Auxerre 1-0 at home but losing 4-3 on aggregate . . . three players are sent off as Bella Vista of Uruguay beat Barcelona of Ecuador 2-1 in the Libertadores Cup.

ENGLAND: Liverpool's Zimbabwe World Cup goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar joins Second Division leaders Stoke on loan until the end of the season.

ITALY: Jean-Pierre Papin tells a Belgian magazine that he is now settled at Milan and that he will quit in three years' time because "I'm not that young now."

UNITED STATES: Officials of US '94 deny they are concerned that Boston has yet to set up a local organising committee little more than a year before Foxboro plays host to the World Cup finals.

17 MARCH
WEDNESDAY

ACTION: Tunisia lose 1-0 at home to Switzerland in one international friendly while Brazil are held 2-2 at home by Poland in another . . . the Champions League resumes and Marseille hit CSKA Moscow for six while Rangers beat Brugge 2-1 despite the expulsion of Mark Hateley; in Group B, Milan beat Porto 1-0 again and IFK Gothenburg complete their surprise double over PSV Eindhoven . . . in the Cup-winners' Cup Parma eliminate Sparta Prague and Antwerp squeeze past Steaua Bucharest . . . in the UEFA Cup Juventus reach the semi-finals by defeating Benfica 3-0 . . . in the World Youth Cup semi-finals, Brazil beat Australia 2-0 while a late goal brings Ghana a 2-1 win over England.

ITALY: Judges investigating the "tangentopoli" corruption scandals issue a warrant for the arrest of Roma president Giuseppe Ciarrapico, while he is in Germany for his club's UEFA Cup match against Borussia Dortmund.

SPAIN: Referees call off their strike threat after a marathon meeting with federation officials to discuss their grievances over criticism by club officials.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA set April 15 in Lyon as date and venue for the African first round replay between Egypt and Zimbabwe.

18 MARCH
THURSDAY

ACTION: Atletico Madrid reach the Cup-winners' Cup semi-finals after beating Olympiakos 3-1, the same margin recorded by Moscow Spartak against Feyenoord . . . Borussia Dortmund overturn Roma's first leg lead in the UEFA Cup, as do Paris Saint-Germain, in spectacular last-minute style, against Real Madrid.

ITALY: *La Reppublica* reports that drug trafficking charges may be laid against Diego Maradona and his former manager, Guillermo Coppola . . . fraud squad officers raid the Fiorentina club offices in search of documentation to support allegations of tax evasion over the 1990 transfer of forward Roberto Baggio to Juventus.

19 MARCH
FRIDAY

ENGLAND: The FA does a U-turn and agrees that the all-Sheffield FA Cup semi-final shall be played at Wembley, after all. The tie had originally been set for Leeds, provoking howls of outrage in Sheffield.

ITALY: Arrigo Sacchi calls up uncapped Alessandro Melli (Parma) and Atalanta defender Sergio Porrini for the World Cup qualifier against Malta.

SPAIN: Barcelona and Johan Cruyff reach agreement on a two-year contract extension worth £1.3million-a-year. The contract includes a permit for him to manage at the 1994 World Cup finals, if Holland qualify.

SWITZERLAND: The draw for the semi-finals of the Cup-winners' Cup is: Atletico Madrid v Parma and Moscow Spartak v Antwerp. The final will be at Wembley. The draw for the semi-finals of the UEFA Cup is: Juventus v Paris SG and Borussia Dortmund v Auxerre. The Champions' Cup Final will be in Munich.

OBITUARY

TOFIK BAKHRAMOV . . . aged 66. Bakhramov, from Azerbaijan, was the top Soviet referee in the 1960s but earned his place in football legand as a the linesman who validated England's controversial third goal in the 1966 World Cup Final defeat of West Germany.

KARL MAI . . . aged 64. West German World Cup-winning left half in 1954.

20 MARCH
SATURDAY

ACTION: Brazil beat Ghana 2-1 in the World Youth Cup Final; England beat hosts Australia 2-1 in the third place play-off . . . Brugge lose 2-0 in the Belgian league against Mechelen . . . Marseille win 2-0 away to early-season leaders Nantes thanks to two goals from Alen Boksic . . . two goals in the last nine minutes provide Bayern Munich with a 3-0 victory over Koln and keep them clear at the top of the German league . . . PSV Eindhoven, tired from another Champions League defeat, are held 1-1 at home in the league by Willem II . . . Rangers' 44-game unbeaten run is brought to a painful end as they lose 2-1 to deadly rivals Celtic . . . Barcelona score a thrilling 4-3 win away to Valencia.

AUSTRALIA: Officials of the Asian confederation say the winners of the World Cup Oceania qualifiers could be admitted to "their" section in future, if FIFA grants Asia an extra place in the World Cup finals.

ITALY: Roma president Giuseppe Ciarrapico provokes panic all round when he fails to return, as promised, from Germany to surrender to a warrant for his arrest in connection with the "tangentopoli" scandals.

21 MARCH
SUNDAY

ACTION: Lanus have three players sent off but still draw 1-1 with San Lorenzo in the Argentine league . . . Sao Paulo lose 2-0 at home to XV de Piracicaba . . . Borussia Dortmund underline their title push by defeating fading Eintracht Frankfurt 3-0 . . . in Holland, Feyenoord win 2-1 against Volendam and two-goal match-winner Regi Blinker is immediately called into the World Cup squad to face San Marino . . . Pescara sack coach Giovanni Galeone after losing 2-1 to Genoa; but the major event in Italy is the end of Milan's 58-game unbeaten league run as they go down 1-0 at home to Parma — against whom their run began back in May, 1991 . . . Real Madrid are held 1-1 in Bilbao, allowing Barcelona to edge two points clear in Spain.

COLOMBIA: Controversial goalkeeper Rene Higuita breaks his leg in a league match between Atletico Nacional and Quindio and may be out for five months, thus missing both the Copa America and the World Cup South American qualifiers.

WORLDWIDE QUIZ

This month's questions are as follows:

1. Armfield, Butcher, Franklin, Haynes, Lawton, Mannion, Peters, Bobby Robson, Sansom, Shackleton, Stiles . . . all postwar England internationals. What is the other common denominator between them?

2. Name the only club to score at least six goals in each half of a postwar football League match.

3. Who is the only man to gain a winner's medal in the World Cup, FA Cup, League Cup and a European club event?

4. What links Champions' Cup winners Feyenoord (1970) with Hamburg (1983)?

5. Who was the first player to be capped for Scotland when playing for a club outside Scotland or England?

6. Only three English clubs have gone through a 46-match League season with only three draws: Reading, Bradford Park Avenue . . . and who else?

7. Who is the only player to appear in three Zenith Data Systems Cup Finals?

8. Name the first player to score a hat-trick in a World Club Cup Final.

9. Who scored at least one goal in all the first 11 Champions' Cup competitions?

10. Name the Scottish club who have been beaten in penalty shoot-outs in each of the last seven Skol Cup tournaments.

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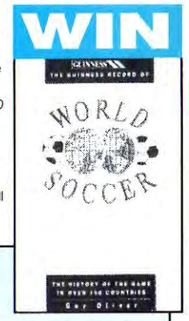
YOU can win the Guinness Record of World Soccer, 870 pages packed with information and normally selling at £19.95, but to do so you've got to face this inquisition.

Send your answers on a *POSTCARD* to the usual address by May 12, please.

The first winner of the book, by Guy Oliver, is John Livingston of Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, who answered all 10 April questions correctly.



April answers:
1 ..... Emelec of Ecuador.
2 ..... Torino in 1948.
3 ..... Dai Davies.
4 ..... Tunisia.
5 ..... Walter Hampson of Newcastle in 1924, aged 41 years eight months.
6 ..... Terry McDermott (1977).
7 ..... Emilio Butragueno.
8 ..... Denis Law in 1962 and 1963.
9 ..... True — Everton of Chile.
10 .... 1934, when Manchester City beat Portsmouth.

Cups for goals

SOUTH AFRICAN clubs made the biggest impact on the early rounds of this year's three major African club competitions, despite the fact they their leading teams were making their first appearances.

Kaizer Chiefs scored the biggest win of the preliminary round of the Champions' Cup, beating Extension Gunners from neighbouring Botswana 6-0 on aggregate. Zambian international striker Albert Bwalya and former Swaziland captain Ronnie Dube led the way in the scoring spree.

In the Cup-winners' Cup, Denver Sundowns of Swaziland were convinced they would overcome a one-goal deficit in the second leg, but Jomo Cosmos found fitness and form and overran the Swazis 6-0, to equal the record for the biggest away win in African club competition. The margin was the same as that by Union Douala of Cameroon against National of Angola in 1981, when the Cameroonians won 7-1.

Hellenic of Cape Town set a record all of their own in beating Malawi's MDC United 6-0 in the second leg — the highest score in the short history of the CAF Cup tournament.

The result, which included an individual record four goals from discarded national team striker Mark Williams, gave Hellenic a 7-1 aggregate win.

The biggest CAF Cup shock was defeat for holders Shooting Stars of Nigeria, beaten on away goals by Sigui de Kayes of Mali. Stars were always going to struggle after a 2-1 home win in the first leg.

MARK **GLEESON**

Double for Pirates

ORLANDO PIRATES completed an early-season double by beating Witbank Aces 3-1 before a 60,000 crowd at the FNB Stadium in Johannesburg, to win the BP Top 8 trophy.

That followed their triumph in the Iwisa Charity Cup competition, but Pirates had to survive a marathon semi-final with Mamelodi Sundowns and a penalty shoot-out.

Defending champions Kaizer Chiefs suffered an early 2-0 League defeat at the hands of Lightbody's Santos.

Donald Khuse of Chiefs and Duncan Crowie, the Santos skipper and a fellow international, were sent off in a tempestous match.

The merging of the "alternative" National Professional League (NPSL), with the National Soccer League (NSL) and the South African FA still seems no nearer.

BARRY **BAKER**

1993 AFRICAN CHAMPIONS' CUP

Preliminary round

	1st	2nd
St George (Eth) v Malindi (Tan)	1-1	0-1
(Malindi 2-1 on agg)		
LCS Gunners (Bot) v Kaizer Chiefs (SA)	0-1	0-5
(Chiefs 6-0 on agg)		
Kiyovu Sport (Rwa) w/o v Bata Bullets (Mal)	withdrew	
Matlama (Les) v Sunrise SC (Mauritius)	2-1	0-3
(Sunrise 4-2 on agg)		
Costa do Sol (Moz) v Ramblers (Nam)	2-1	0-0
(Costa do Sol 2-1 on agg)		
Mbabane Highlanders (Swa) v AC Sotema (Mad)	0-1	0-2
(Sotema 3-0 on agg)		
Sporting Bissau (GB) withdrew v Etoile Filante (BF)	w/o	
Djoliba (Mali) v ASC Sonader (Mauritania)	1-0	1-1
(Djoliba 2-1 on agg)		
LPRC Oilers (Lib) w/o v Etoile Filante (Togo)	withdrew	
Akonangui (EG) v TP USCA (CAR)	1-2	0-2
(USCA 4-1 on agg)		
Primiero Agosto (Ang) w/o v Buffles Borgou (Ben)	withdrew	
ASAC Ndiambour (Sen) v Spt. Mindelense (CVI)	1-1	pp
Sahel SC (Niger) v Tout Puissant Elec Sport (Chad)	2-0	2-0
(Sahel 4-0 on agg)		

First round
Malindi v Zamalek (Egy)
Kiyovu Sport v Kaizer Chiefs
Sunrise v Al Hilal (Sud)
AFC Leopards (Ken) v Nkana Red Devils (Zam)
Nakivubo Villa (Uga) v Vital'O (Bur)
AC Sotema v Black Aces (Zim)
Costa do Sol v Union Milambe (Zai)
Djoliba v ASEC Abidjan (IC)
KAC Marrakesh (Mor) v Horoya (Gui)
Sahel SC v Asante Kotoko (Gha)
Etoile Filante v Mouloudia d'Oran (Alg)
Primiero Agosto v Racing Bafoussam (Cam)
LPRC Oliers v Club Africain (Tun)
AS Sogara (Gab) v Etoile du Congo (Con)
TP USCA v Stationary Stores (Nigeria)
ASC Ndiamdour/Spt. Mindelense v Wydad Casablanca (Mor, holders)

Second round
First leg (14-16 May)
Second leg (28-30 May)

Quarter-finals
First leg (03-05 September)
Second leg (17-19 September)

Semi-finals
First leg (15-17 October)
Second leg (29-31 October)

Final
First leg (26-28 November)
Second leg (10-12 December)

AFRICAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Action from the preliminary round, 2nd legs as Shaun Donnelly of Jomo Cosmos (dark shirt) shields the ball from Fanie Terblanche of Denver Sundowns in the Cup-winners' Cup (right), and Ronnie Dube of Kaizer Chiefs scores against LCS Gunners of Botswana in the Champions' Cup (left).

Preliminary round

	1st	2nd
Liverpool (Nam) v GF Tafic (Bot)	1-1	1-0
(Liverpool won 2-1 on agg)		
Jomo Cosmos (SA) v Denver Sundowns (Swa)	1-0	6-0
(Cosmos 7-0 on agg)		
Silver Strikers (Mal) v Arsenal (Les)	0-2	1-2
(Arsenal 4-1 on agg)		
Pamba (Tan) v Mukura Victory (Rwa)	0-1	2-1
(2-2 on agg, Pamba on away goals)		
Tempete Mocaf (CAR) v Petro Atletico (Ang)	1-2	1-1
(Petro 3-2 on agg)		
ASC SNIM (Mauritania) w/o v Benfica (GB)	withdrew	
Semassi Sokode (Togo) w/o v Diamond Stars (SL)	withdrew	
Gazelle (Chad) v Ela Nguema (EG)	1-0	0-2
(Ela Nguema 2-1 on agg)		
Hafia (Gui) v Stade Malien (Mali)	2-1	1-0
(Hafia 3-1 on agg)		

First round
Daring Club Motema Pembe (Zai) v Liverpool
CARA Brazzaville (Con) v Petro Atletico
Kabwe Warriors (Zam) v Prince Louis (Bur)
COSFAP (Mad) v Jomo Cosmos
Clube de Gaza (Moz) v Arsenal
Al Ahly (Egy) v Pamba
Wankie (Zim) v Kenya Breweries (Ken)
El Merreikh (Sud) v Express FC (Uga)
JS Kabylie (Alg) v ASC SNIM
Dragons Oueme (Ben) v Olympic (Niger)
Stade Tunisien (Tun) v Hafia
Voradep (Gha) v US Goreenne (Sen)
Africa Sports (IC, holders) v NPA Anchors (Lib)
Delta (Gab) v Semassi Sokode
El Kanemi Warriors (Nigeria) v Ela Nguema
Olympic Mvolye (Cam) v RCK (BF)

Second round
First leg (14-16 May)
Second leg (28-30 May)

Quarter-finals
First leg (03-05 September)
Second leg (17-19 September)

Semi-finals
First leg (15-17 October)
Second leg (29-31 October)

Final
First leg (19-21 November)
Second leg (03-05 December)

CAF CUP

Preliminary round

	1st	2nd
Insurance (Eth) v Rayon Sports (Rwa)	2-1	1-1
(Insurance 3-2 on agg)		
Desp. Travadores (CVI) v ASC Air Mauritanie	0-0	0-0
(0-0 on agg, Air Mauritanie won 6-5 on pens)		
Entente Deux (Togo) w/o v UDIB (GB)	disqualified	
Tourbillon (Chad) v Les Anges de Fatima (CAR)	1-1	3-2
(Tourbillon 4-3 on agg)		
Linare (Les) v Young Ones (Nam)	1-1	2-4
(Young Ones 3-5 on agg)		

First round

Insurance v Merreikh El Obayed (Sud)	0-0	1-1
(1-1 on agg, Insurance win on away goals)		
Young Ones w/o v Profund Warriors (Zam)	withdrew	
Manzini Wand. (Swa) w/o v CAPS Utd (Zim)	withdrew	
Simba (Tan) v Ferroviario de Maputo (Moz)	0-0	1-1
(1-1 on agg, Simba win on away goals)		
Coffee SC (Uga) v Gor Mahia (Ken)	0-1	1-0
(1-1 on agg, Gor Mahia 5-4 on pens)		
MDC Utd (Mal) v Hellenic (SA)	1-1	0-6
(Hellenic 7-1 on agg)		
Jeanne d'Arc (Sen) v USM Harrach (Alg)	0-0	1-6
(El Harrach 6-1 on agg)		
FDA Forester (Lib) v Hearts of Oak (Gha)	0-2	1-5
(Hearts of Oak 7-1 on agg)		
ASC Air Mauritanie v ASFAG (Gui)	2-0	3-1
(Air Mauritanie 5-1 on agg)		
Zumunta (Niger) v ASFA Yannega (BF)	1-1	2-0
(Zumunta 3-1 on agg)		
Tourbillon v Canon Yaounde (Cam)	0-1	0-3
(Canon Yaounde 4-0 on agg)		
FC Scibe (Zai) v Atletico Sport Aviacao (Ang)	0-0	pp
Stella Abidjan (IC) w/o v Kambui Eagles (SL)	withdrew	
Shooting Stars (Nigeria) v Sigui de Kayes (Mali)	2-1	0-1
(2-2 on agg, Sigui de Kayes on away goals)		
Petrosport (Con) v Renquins Atlantique (Ben)	3-0	0-1
(Petrosport 3-1 on agg)		
Entente Deux v Mbilinga (Gab)	0-3	2-2
(Mbilinga 5-2 on agg)		

Second round
First leg (21-23 May)
Second leg (04-06 June)

Quarter-finals
First leg (03-05 September)
Second leg (17-19 September)

Semi-finals
First leg (15-17 October)
Second leg (29-31 October)

Final
First leg (12-14 November)
Second leg (26-28 November)

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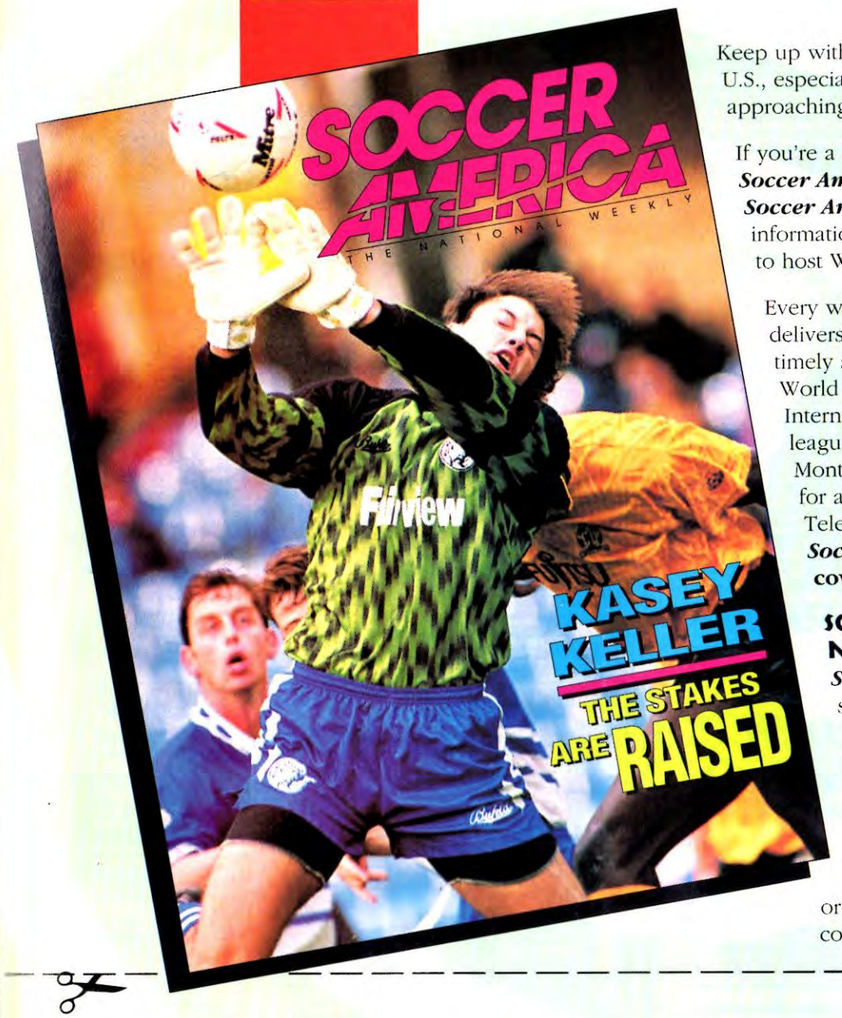

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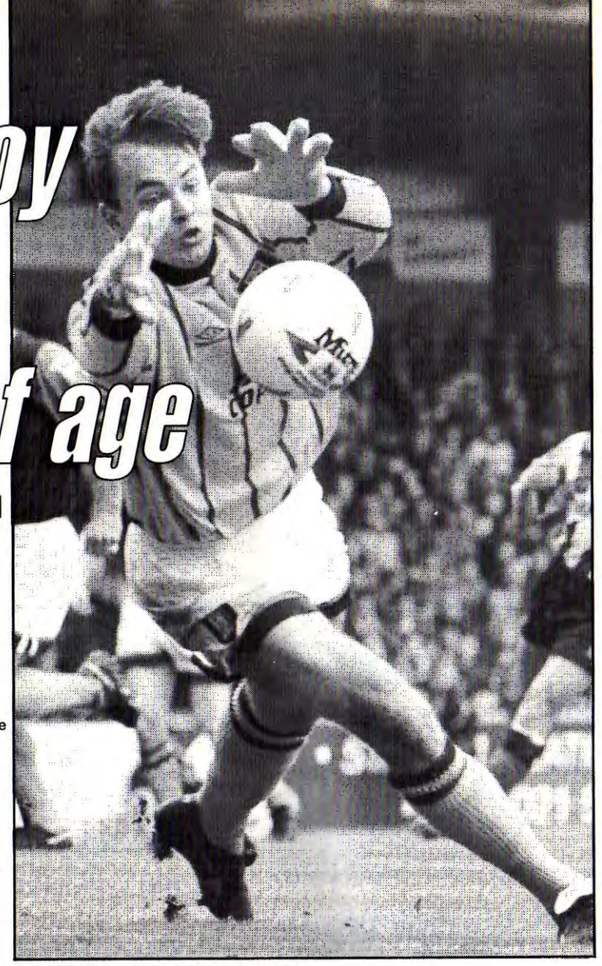
Beach boy Bosnich comes of age

BY JOHN **KELLY**



Kangaroo king . . . Bosnich in possession.

FOOTBALL, it is often said, is a funny old game, and in the case of Aston Villa goalkeeper Mark Bosnich that is certainly true.

Bosnich performed heroics to ensure that Villa gained a point from their vital Premier League clash against Manchester United at Old Trafford, and he is regularly turning in faultless performances for Ron Atkinson's title-chasers, despite allegations concerning the mechanics of his move to Villa Park.

Yet it could all have been so different because just over two years ago Bosnich was a United player with a promising future .

He made his United debut in April 1991, at 18, and kept a clean sheet against Wimbledon. He made two more first-team appearances before work permit problems meant he had to return to his native Australia, where a lifestyle geared to over-indulgence sucked him in.

"I had too much of a good time," admits Bosnich. "My weight shot up to over 14 stone because I was eating and drinking too much. After things had looked so promising for me at Old Trafford I could see it all fizzling out.

"Australia's a very hard place to discipline yourself because there are so many great temptations and it's a terrific place to live. Train three nights a week, play Sundays and then all day Monday on the beach. It's easy to go overboard."

Back home in Sydney, Bosnich played for Sydney Croatia but found that life in the Australian National League was no substitute for the English First Division.

"My own standards were starting to suffer and I began to realise there was nothing left for me in Australia," he said.

"I would have gone back to Old Trafford if United had made it clear they wanted me, but Villa got in first."

Brian Whitehouse, a former coach at Old Trafford, was now on Ron Atkinson's staff and had kept in touch with Bosnich, eventually bringing him to Birmingham.

The problems in obtaining a work permit disappeared last February when Bosnich married his Manchester-born girlfriend Lisa, giving him the right to live and work in Britain.

The next 10 months were spent improving his technique on the practice pitch and in the reserves. Then, in December 1992, an injury to regular keeper Nigel Spink gave Bosnich his Villa debut in a 2-1 win over Sheffield Wednesday.

Spink returned for the next 12 games before a stomach bug ruled him out of the FA Cup tie against Wimbledon. Despite losing in a penalty shoot-out, Bosnich has retained his place in the Villa side since. His impressive displays have been achieved despite growing fears for the safety of relatives caught up in the fighting in Croatia and Bosnia.

"Eventually we learned they were all okay and out of the war zones," he said.

Mark Bosnich was born on January 13, 1972 in Sydney and wanted to be a rugby league player. His parents thought the oval-ball game was too rough and steered their son towards soccer.

Bosnich tried several outfield positions without success before finding his niche as a goalkeeper. He joined the Marconi club in Sydney and, encouraged by coach Ron Corry, soon developed international potential.

In the summer of 1991 he travelled to Portugal for the World Youth Championship and kept three clean sheets in the first round as Australia advanced to a quarter-final meeting with Syria.

That match finished as a 1-1 draw but in the penalty shoot-out Bosnich saved twice as Australia won 5-4. The semi-final against Portugal ended in disappointment, though, as the home side won 1-0.

The third-place match against the Soviet Union also went to penalties, though this time the "Young Socceroos" lost 5-4. Bosnich had made his mark though and was widely acclaimed as the best goalkeeper at the tournament.

The following summer, Bosnich went within 90 minutes of an Olympic bronze medal in Barcelona, again beaten in a third-place play-off, this time by Ghana.

His next aim is a World Cup debut against New Zealand in the Oceania play-off. Ironically one of his challengers for the Australian No. 1 jersey could be Jason Kearton, understudy to Neville Southall at Everton.

The pair faced each other in February when Villa beat Everton in the first top-flight English match featuring two Australian goalkeepers.

Before that Trans-Tasman tussle, though, there is the small matter of the battle for the Premier League title.

"I'm not looking that far ahead," he insists. "I'll leave the senior players and the manager to worry about that.

"I'm just enjoying the experience of playing on grounds where I have never been before. I still couldn't have imagined a year ago that I would be back at Old Trafford, playing for another team and doing so well."

His performance in the 1-1 draw at Old Trafford exemplified his qualities.

He was praised by Atkinson, who said: "He's been phenomenal. His attitude is first-class and he shows no nerves."

High praise indeed.

How ironic it would be if Atkinson, Bosnich and Paul McGrath, a former United manager and two former United players, end up denying their old club the trophy they most desperately want to win.

Football, as they say, is a funny old game.

Top marks . . . Bosnich stops Ince of Manchester United.

'There was nothing left for me in Australia'

Uproar at player's death

A PLAYER'S death caused uproar during the early stages of the Santosh Trophy, one of India's most important tournaments.

Sanjeev Dutta, a 26-year-old clerk with Calcutta Railways, was captain of the Railways team playing Andhra Pradesh in a preliminary-round match at Kannur.

He collided with an opponent, collapsed, and was carried from the pitch unconscious.

He was given first-aid and a doctor ordered Dutta's immediate removal to hospital, where he was pronounced dead from internal bleeding.

Then the row started. The All-India Football Federation and Railway Sports officials were savagely criticised for apparent lack of urgency over Dutta's collapse, and there were allegations that they had not even called an ambulance.

No official, apparently, went with him to the hospital, where the body remained for several days while thousands of fans paid their last respects.

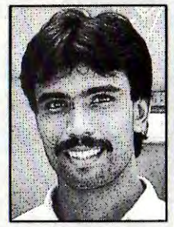
Controversy raged over "the callous and indifferent" attitude of the organisers, although the AIFF announced a financial settlement with Dutta's pregnant widow, married for only eight months.

A sports welfare organisation also made a donation, and another welfare group plan a representative match to raise funds for Mrs Dutta.

Officials also were criticised for not abandoning the tournament as a mark of respect. The month-long event, played in five cities, continued for another 18 days after Dutta's death and was won by Kerala, for the third time. They beat Mahar-ashtra 2-0.

The Mayalala Manorama Golden Boot, a new award, went to I.M. Vijayan, who scored five of Kerala's eight goals. Vijayan, 24 and with seven caps, works as a policeman . . . and was promoted to inspector after the event ended.

G.C. **DAS**



The winners . . . Kerala, and the loser . . . Sanjeev Dutta (above).

Complex look to NZ's new format

DESPITE condemnation by almost the entire New Zealand soccer fraternity . . .

Despite the attempts of several leading clubs to form a rival breakaway league . . .

Despite threats by some clubs to seek admission to the Australian National League . . .

Despite efforts to unseat officials who devised the scheme . . . the Winfield Superclub Championship started on schedule, and with a full complement of clubs.

The competition, replacing the Winfield National Soccer League, has a complex format.

For the first stage, the country has been divided into three 10-club regions playing each other home and away twice.

After that the top three teams from the North and Central sections plus the south's leading two advance to the second phase — the national round.

In this, the eight survivors play each other once in a round robin that determines four qualifiers for the national finals.

In these, top two from the national round clash in Match One, the winner going directly into the final.

The third and fourth sides oppose each other in Match Two, and the losers are eliminated.

Match Three features the Match One losers against Match Two winners, with the Match One winners waiting to meet the successful club in the first Superclub Championship Final, to be played on October 10.

Complex? I'll say!

PAUL **MOON**

Up for grabs Down Under

AUSTRALIA'S claim that they are good enough to qualify for the 1994 World Cup finals may not be without substance, although it will be tested for authenticity in difficult circumstances when they play New Zealand in Christchurch on May 29.

The winners of that qualifying play-off — the return is on June 6 — face the runners-up of the CONCACAF preliminaries in what is effectively a semi-final eliminator.

Then comes the final showdown with a South American country for a place in the United States in just over 12 months.

"Three steps away from glory", is how the Australian media view the position in the run-in to the World Cup finals, although national coach Eddie Thomson admits: "I wish it was as straightforward as that."

Thomson, an exiled Scot, believes the odds are stacked against his team, but insists: "We're taking our bid very seriously.

"We've worked hard to prepare for the game with New Zealand and although we dare not look any further down the road than that, winning the next three matches is not out of the question."

The prospect of Australia's qualifying for their first finals series since West Germany in 1974 is intriguing to say the least, especially when you consider that half their squad play club football in Europe.

Aston Villa's goalkeeper Mark Bosnich, signed from Sydney Croatia last year and second choice in the Australian squad, says: "We have some very skilful players and our style is probably more continental than British. Eddie Thomson has put together a formidable squad including many players who would more than hold their own in the Premier League.

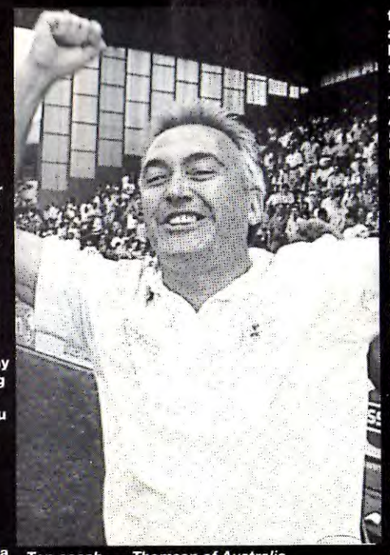
"We have an exceptionally talented manager, and above all we have the desire to succeed."

Stoke striker Ernie Tapai, signed from Adelaide City for £60,000 last year, has been capped over 30 times for his country and points out: "Out of the entire squad only half a dozen are based back home.

"The standard is higher than ever at the moment, and our World Cup bid is being taken very seriously. We have played over 30 internationals in three years.

"Now it's do-or-die stuff and we need to qualify for the finals to give the game back home a real lift. After Germany in 1974 interest in Australian soccer surged and we were getting crowds of 30,000.

"Then it tailed off, although interest has revived slightly in recent years."



Top coach . . . Thomson of Australia.

But despite the growing optimism surrounding Australia's latest bid for true international recognition, the build-up to the crucial match in New Zealand has been slightly overshadowed by the fiercely contested debate over Thomson's selection.

Because domestic Australian soccer is a multi-cultural scene, with teams made up of home-bred players as well as a percentage of Italians, Greeks and Yugoslavians, many people believe these are the men who should represent Australia, and not those who play in Europe.

But Bosnich says: "Although this will always be a talking point for the people back home, Australia stand more chance of succeeding if they use players who are playing abroad.

"You just cannot compare playing at home to playing in Europe.

"If the manager thought all the best players were those still in places such as Adelaide, Sydney or Melbourne, then I am sure he would select them. But although there are some very good players back home, the best eventually go abroad."

PHIL **SHIRLEY**

MLCL

The Make Life Confusing League

Paul Gardner sums up the game's history in the United States

NOBODY is seriously suggesting that the United States — even as the host nation in 1994 — will win the World Cup.

No doubt that's true, but if they could be allowed to organise a World Cup of soccer acronyms, well, forget it — the US comes waltzing home in first place. For starters, there is the United States Soccer Federation, USSF acronymically speaking.

That started life back in 1884 as the AFA. (No, we are not going to spell out all the acronyms, we don't have the space — you work them out).

Very soon, as is the habit of American soccer, another organisation appeared on the scene, to challenge the AFA's leadership.

That was the AAFA. FIFA wouldn't that recognise either, and told them, in 1912, to get together and form one organisation.

So the USFA was born. In 1945, the USFA became the USSFA.

You can have some help on that one: the promoters of the sport in the US had never swallowed the idea that the word "football" meant gridiron football in the US.

But now, they compromised and called their sport "soccer football." It took another 29 years until the word football disappeared, and the USSFA became the United States Soccer Federation, the USSF. Which is what it is today.

Sometimes.

A new version, jazzily shortened to US Soccer, with a suitably slick, action-packed logo, is what the USSF prefers to use. Then we have the leagues.

Only one clue here: the letters SL stand for Soccer League.

In the 1920s and '30s, there were the ASL, and the EPL.

After World War II came the GASL and the ISL, which begat the NPSL and the NASL and the CSL and the USL. And the MISL, which became the MSL. Of all that crowd, only the Cosmopolitan Soccer League still exists, a semi-pro league in the New York area.

The National Professional Soccer League died after one year of operation in 1967, but has now re-appeared as an indoor league.

Currently operating, as the country's only certified pro league, is the American Professional Soccer League, the APSL. US Soccer, that is to say the USSF, has a structure for professional soccer leagues, in which they are classed as Division I, or Division II, or Division III leagues.

The APSL is a Division II league.

There are no Division I leagues. It is a Division I league (US Soccer envisages only one league in this category) that the country is waiting for, the pro league that FIFA has said so many times must emerge after the extravaganza of the World Cup. US Soccer president Alan Rothenberg — who also happens to be in charge of World Cup '94 — is working on it.

It's not going to be easy.

In the meantime, we should take a look at another acronym, this one much more recent. USISL — the United States Interregional Soccer League.

This one started life as the SISL — the Southwest Indoor Soccer League — in 1986.

In 1988, because clubs were now playing indoor and outdoor, it became the Southwest Independent Soccer League (still SISL, you see), and then in 1990, it was the Sunbelt Independent Soccer League. Now it is the USISL and claims to be the USA's largest soccer league. No doubt that's true — it now has 40 teams operating in five regional divisions throughout the west, south and east of the US.

The plans are to increase the number of teams to 64 in 1994.

Come See Us Sizzle, says USISL. The man behind all this sizzling is the league's commissioner, Francisco Marcos, who has been around in American soccer — from his playing days at Hartwick College, through 10 years of administrative jobs with the old NASL. The thing about Marcos is that he doesn't claim that the SISL is the answer to American dreams of a pro league.

In fact, he says quite flatly that this is not a pro league.

Well, he has to say that — the league is not registered with US Soccer's Pro Division. It is still classified as a Regional Amateur League. But, says Marcos, an application is pending to make the SISL a Division III pro league: "We are a league that falls somewhere between Division II and Division III in comparison with European soccer," he says.

"We represent the best and easiest opportunity for local groups to organise and own a pro development franchise, at an affordable level in an organised league which is run professionally."

The frequency with which leagues have come and gone in the US makes "run professionally" particularly important. But there are no grandiose claims here. "This is what we are," says Marcos, "and this is what we shall be."

Modest aims, but much more realistic than most.

The idea that a small league can suddenly, or even slowly, grow into a major league is one that has led many an owner to ruin. The idea of a modest league, that knows its station in life and is content with it, is not such a bad thing.

The function of a league like that would be to show that fans will come to soccer games, in modest numbers, regularly — something that the sport has had great trouble demonstrating in the past.

If that can be done, then, who knows, maybe the big guys, the billionaires, will take notice and move in to create their own major league. That is the big-bang theory: the sudden arrival of wealth, and the overnight creation of a league.

It is the more likely way of doing things in the US.

Rothenberg has let it be known that he believes in the big-bang theory. While we wait for the explosion, the SISL gets ready for its 1993 season.

Modestly.

It costs a club only $10,000 to join the league, and for that they get exclusive territorial rights in a 50-mile radius.

Marcos says that the actual budgets of clubs range from $25,000 to $100,000 a season.

More than modest. The league plays under FIFA rules, but allows four substitutes, plus the goalkeeper.

The old NASL system of six points for a win, plus a point for each goal scored up to three, is used.

Eighteen players dress on game day, and there must be five US citizens on the field for each team at all times. To keep travelling costs down, 12 of a team's 16 regular-season games are played within its own region.

The other four are against teams from the closest region.

For 1993, the SISL will do its sizzling in the format outlined below.

Action from the first leg of the 1930 US Cup Final at the Polo Grounds, New York, as Fall River's Charlie McGill and Jimmy McCauley (hoops) stop Bethlehem Steel's Archie Stark in his tracks during a 1-1 draw watched by 17,000 fans. Fall River won the second match 3-2 . . . great days in ASL history.

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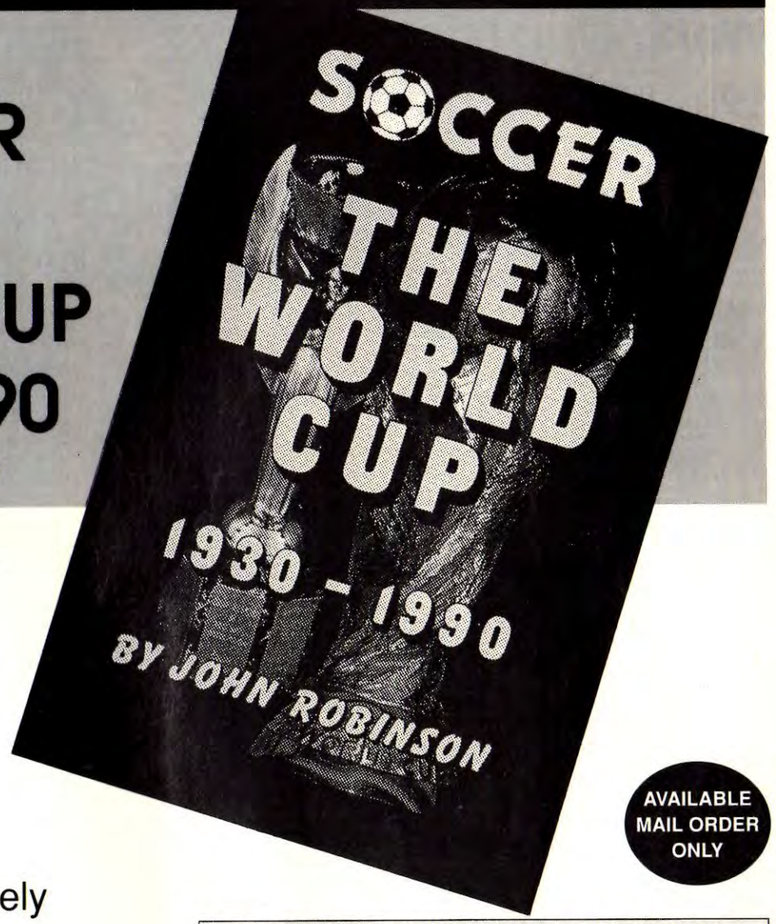

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1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFYING GROUPS

EUROPE

38 entries (39 members, Liechtenstein withdrew)

● *Top two teams in each Group qualify for finals (Germany qualify as holders).*

GROUP 1

16.08.92 Estonia v Switzerland 0-6
09.09.92 Switzerland v Scotland 3-1
14.10.92 Italy v Switzerland 2-2
14.10.92 Scotland v Portugal 0-0
25.10.92 Malta v Estonia 0-0
18.11.92 Scotland v Italy 0-0
18.11.92 Switzerland v Malta 3-0
19.12.92 Malta v Italy 1-2
24.01.93 Malta v Portugal 0-1
17.02.93 Scotland v Malta 3-0
24.02.93 Portugal v Italy 1-3
24.03.93 Italy v Malta 6-1
31.03.93 Switzerland v Portugal 1-1
14.04.93 Italy v Estonia
17.04.93 Malta v Switzerland
28.04.93 Portugal v Scotland
01.05.93 Switzerland v Italy
12.05.93 Estonia v Malta
19.05.93 Estonia v Scotland
02.06.93 Scotland v Estonia
19.06.93 Portugal v Malta
05.09.93 Estonia v Portugal
08.09.93 Scotland v Switzerland
22.09.93 Estonia v Italy
13.10.93 Portugal v Switzerland
13.10.93 Italy v Scotland
10.11.93 Portugal v Estonia
17.11.93 Italy v Portugal
17.11.93 Malta v Scotland
17.11.93 Switzerland v Estonia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Switzerland	5	3	2	0	15	4	8
Italy	5	3	2	0	13	5	8
Scotland	4	1	2	1	4	3	4
Portugal	4	1	2	1	3	4	4
Estonia	2	0	1	1	0	6	1
Malta	6	0	1	5	2	15	1

GROUP 2

09.09.92 Norway v San Marino 10-0
23.09.92 Norway v Holland 2-1
23.09.92 Poland v Turkey 1-0
07.10.92 San Marino v Norway 0-2
14.10.92 England v Norway 1-1
14.10.92 Holland v Poland 2-2
28.10.92 Turkey v San Marino 4-1
18.11.92 England v Turkey 4-0
16.12.92 Turkey v Holland 1-3
17.02.93 England v San Marino 6-0
24.02.93 Holland v Turkey 3-1
10.03.93 San Marino v Turkey 0-0
24.03.93 Holland v San Marino 6-0
31.03.93 Turkey v England 0-2
28.04.93 England v Holland
28.04.93 Norway v Turkey
28.04.93 Poland v San Marino
19.05.93 San Marino v Poland
29.05.93 Poland v England
02.06.93 Norway v England
09.06.93 Holland v Norway
08.09.93 England v Poland
22.09.93 Norway v Poland
22.09.93 San Marino v Holland
13.10.93 Holland v England
13.10.93 Poland v Norway
27.10.93 Turkey v Poland
10.11.93 Turkey v Norway
16.11.93 San Marino v England
17.11.93 Poland v Holland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	4	3	1	0	15	2	7
England	4	3	1	0	13	1	7
Holland	5	3	1	1	15	6	7
Poland	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Turkey	7	1	1	5	6	14	3
San Marino	6	0	1	5	1	28	1

GROUP 3

22.04.92 Spain v Albania 3-0
28.04.92 Northern Ireland v Lithuania 2-2
26.05.92 Rep. of Ireland v Albania 2-0
03.06.92 Albania v Lithuania 1-0
12.08.92 Latvia v Lithuania 1-2
26.08.92 Latvia v Denmark 0-0
09.09.92 Rep. of Ireland v Latvia 4-0
09.09.92 Northern Ireland v Albania 3-0
23.09.92 Latvia v Spain 0-0
23.09.92 Lithuania v Denmark 0-0
14.10.92 Denmark v Rep. of Ireland 0-0
14.10.92 Northern Ireland v Spain 0-0
28.10.92 Lithuania v Latvia 1-1
11.11.92 Albania v Latvia 1-1
18.11.92 Northern Ireland v Denmark 0-1
18.11.92 Spain v Rep. of Ireland 0-0
16.12.92 Spain v Latvia 5-0
17.02.93 Albania v Northern Ireland 1-2
24.02.93 Spain v Lithuania 5-0
31.03.93 Denmark v Spain 1-0
31.03.93 Rep. of Ireland v N. Ireland 3-0
14.04.93 Denmark v Latvia
14.04.93 Lithuania v Albania
28.04.93 Rep. of Ireland v Denmark
28.04.93 Spain v Northern Ireland
15.05.93 Latvia v Albania
25.05.93 Lithuania v Northern Ireland
26.05.93 Albania v Rep. of Ireland
02.06.93 Denmark v Albania
02.06.93 Latvia v Northern Ireland
02.06.93 Lithuania v Spain
09.06.93 Latvia v Rep. of Ireland
16.06.93 Lithuania v Rep. of Ireland
25.08.93 Denmark v Lithuania
08.09.93 Albania v Denmark
08.09.93 Rep. of Ireland v Lithuania
08.09.93 Northern Ireland v Latvia
22.09.93 Albania v Spain
13.10.93 Denmark v Northern Ireland
13.10.93 Rep. of Ireland v Spain
17.11.93 N. Ireland v Rep. of Ireland
17.11.93 Spain v Denmark

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	7	3	3	1	13	1	9
Rep. of Ireland	5	3	2	0	8	0	8
Denmark	5	2	3	0	2	0	7
N. Ireland	6	2	2	2	7	6	6
Lithuania	6	1	3	2	5	10	5
Latvia	7	0	4	3	3	13	4
Albania	6	1	1	4	3	11	3

GROUP 4

22.04.92 Belgium v Cyprus 1-0
06.05.92 Romania v Faroe Islands 7-0
20.05.92 Romania v Wales 5-1
03.06.92 Faroe Islands v Belgium 0-3
18.06.92 Faroe Islands v Cyprus 0-2
02.09.92 Czechoslovakia v Belgium 1-2
09.09.92 Wales v Faroe Islands 6-0
23.09.92 Czechoslovakia v Faroe Islands 4-0
14.10.92 Belgium v Romania 1-0
14.10.92 Cyprus v Wales 0-1
14.11.92 Romania v Czechoslovakia 1-1
18.11.92 Belgium v Wales 2-0
29.11.92 Cyprus v Romania 1-4
13.02.93 Cyprus v Belgium 0-3
24.03.93 Cyprus v Czechoslovakia 1-1
31.03.93 Wales v Belgium 2-0
14.04.93 Romania v Cyprus
25.04.93 Cyprus v Faroe Islands
28.04.93 Czechoslovakia v Wales
22.05.93 Belgium v Faroe Islands
02.06.93 Czechoslovakia v Romania
06.06.93 Faroe Islands v Wales
16.06.93 Faroe Islands v Czechoslovakia
08.09.93 Wales v Czechoslovakia
08.09.93 Faroe Islands v Romania
13.10.93 Romania v Belgium
13.10.93 Wales v Cyprus
27.10.93 Czechoslovakia v Cyprus
17.11.93 Wales v Romania
17.11.93 Belgium v Czechoslovakia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	7	6	0	1	12	3	12
Romania	5	3	1	1	17	4	7
Wales	5	3	0	2	10	7	6
Czechoslovakia	4	1	2	1	7	4	4
Cyprus	6	1	1	4	4	10	3
Faroe Islands	5	0	0	5	0	22	0

GROUP 5

13.05.92 Greece v Iceland 1-0
03.06.92 Hungary v Iceland 1-2
09.09.92 Luxembourg v Hungary 0-3
07.10.92 Iceland v Greece 0-1
14.10.92 Russia v Iceland 1-0
28.10.92 Russia v Luxembourg 2-0
11.11.92 Greece v Hungary 0-0
17.02.93 Greece v Luxembourg 2-0
31.03.93 Hungary v Greece 0-1
14.04.93 Luxembourg v Russia
28.04.93 Russia v Hungary
20.05.93 Russia v Greece
20.05.93 Luxembourg v Iceland
02.06.93 Iceland v Russia
16.06.93 Iceland v Hungary
08.09.93 Hungary v Russia
08.09.93 Iceland v Luxembourg
12.10.93 Luxembourg v Greece
27.10.93 Hungary v Luxembourg
17.11.93 Greece v Russia

★ *Yugoslavia excluded due to UN sanctions.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Greece	5	4	1	0	5	0	9
Russia	2	2	0	0	3	0	4
Hungary	4	1	1	2	4	3	3
Iceland	4	1	0	3	2	4	2
Luxembourg	3	0	0	3	0	7	0

GROUP 6

14.05.92 Finland v Bulgaria 0-3
09.09.92 Bulgaria v France 2-0
09.09.92 Finland v Sweden 0-1
07.10.92 Sweden v Bulgaria 2-0
14.10.92 France v Austria 2-0
28.10.92 Austria v Israel 5-2
11.11.92 Israel v Sweden 1-3
14.11.92 France v Finland 2-1
02.12.92 Israel v Bulgaria 0-2
17.02.93 Israel v France 0-4
27.03.93 Austria v France 0-1
14.04.93 Austria v Bulgaria
28.04.93 France v Sweden
28.04.93 Bulgaria v Finland
12.05.93 Bulgaria v Israel
13.05.93 Finland v Austria
19.05.93 Sweden v Austria
02.06.93 Sweden v Israel
16.06.93 Finland v Israel
22.08.93 Sweden v France
25.08.93 Austria v Finland
08.09.93 Finland v France
08.09.93 Bulgaria v Sweden
13.10.93 France v Israel
13.10.93 Bulgaria v Austria
13.10.93 Sweden v Finland
27.20.93 Israel v Austria
10.11.93 Austria v Sweden
10.11.93 Israel v Finland
17.11.93 France v Bulgaria

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	5	4	0	1	9	3	8
Bulgaria	4	3	0	1	7	2	6
Sweden	3	3	0	0	6	1	6
Austria	3	1	0	2	5	5	2
Finland	3	0	0	3	1	6	0
Israel	4	0	0	4	3	14	0

AFRICA

37 entries (48 members)

● *Group winners qualify for Second Round of 3 mini leagues of 3 teams each. Winners qualify for finals.*

First Round

GROUP A

09.10.92 Algeria v Burundi 3-1
25.10.92 Burundi v Ghana 1-0
20.12.92 Ghana v Algeria 2-0
17.01.93 Burundi v Algeria 0-0
31.01.93 Ghana v Burundi 1-0
26.02.93 Algeria v Ghana 2-1

★ *Uganda withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ALGERIA	4	2	1	1	5	4	5
Ghana	4	2	0	2	4	3	4
Burundi	4	1	1	2	2	4	3

GROUP B

18.10.92 Cameroon v Swaziland 5-0
25.10.92 Swaziland v Zaire 1-0
10.01.93 Zaire v Cameroon 1-2
17.01.93 Swaziland v Cameroon 0-0
29.02.93 Cameroon v Zaire 0-0

★ *Liberia withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CAMEROON	4	2	2	0	7	1	6
Swaziland	3	1	1	1	1	5	3
Zaire	3	0	1	2	1	3	1

Not played: *Zaire v Swaziland*

GROUP C

11.10.92 Egypt v Angola 1-0
11.10.92 Zimbabwe v Togo 1-0
25.10.92 Togo v Egypt 1-4
20.12.92 Zimbabwe v Egypt 2-1
10.01.93 Angola v Zimbabwe 1-1
17.01.93 Togo v Zimbabwe 1-2
18.01.93 Angola v Egypt 0-0
31.01.93 Egypt v Togo 3-0
31.01.93 Zimbabwe v Angola 2-1
28.02.93 Egypt v Zimbabwe 2-1
28.02.93 Togo v Angola 0-1

★ *Sierra Leone withdrew, Togo replaced them.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
EGYPT	6	4	1	1	11	4	9
Zimbabwe	6	4	1	1	9	6	9
Angola	5	1	2	2	3	4	4
Togo	5	0	0	5	2	11	0

Not played: *Angola v Togo*

GROUP D

10.10.92 Nigeria v South Africa 4-0
25.10.92 South Africa v Congo 1-0
20.12.92 Congo v Nigeria 0-1
17.01.93 South Africa v Nigeria 0-0
31.01.93 Congo v South Africa 0-1
27.02.93 Nigeria v Congo 2-0

★ *Sao Tome e Principe withdrew, Libya withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NIGERIA	4	3	1	0	7	0	7
South Africa	4	2	1	1	2	4	5
Congo	4	0	0	4	0	5	0

GROUP E

10.10.92 Ivory Coast v Botswana 6-0
25.10.92 Niger v Ivory Coast 0-0
20.12.92 Botswana v Niger 0-1
17.01.93 Botswana v Ivory Coast 0-0
31.01.93 Ivory Coast v Niger 1-0
28.02.93 Niger v Botswana 2-1

★ *Sudan withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IVORY COAST	4	2	2	0	7	0	6
Niger	4	2	1	1	3	2	5
Botswana	4	0	1	3	1	9	1

GROUP F

11.10.92 Morocco v Ethiopia 5-0
11.10.92 Tunisia v Benin 5-1
25.10.92 Ethiopia v Tunisia 0-0
25.10.92 Benin v Morocco 0-1
20.12.92 Tunisia v Morocco 1-1
20.12.92 Ethiopia v Benin 3-1
17.01.93 Ethiopia v Morocco 0-1
17.01.93 Benin v Tunisia 0-5
31.01.93 Tunisia v Ethiopia 3-0
31.01.93 Morocco v Benin 5-0
28.02.93 Benin v Ethiopia 1-0
28.02.93 Morocco v Tunisia 0-0

★ *Malawi withdrew, Benin replaced them.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MOROCCO	6	4	2	0	13	1	10
Tunisia	6	3	3	0	14	2	9
Ethiopia	6	1	1	4	3	11	3
Benin	6	1	0	5	3	19	2

GROUP G

11.10.92 Gabon v Mozambique 3-1
25.10.92 Mozambique v Senegal 0-1
19.12.92 Gabon v Senegal 3-2
17.02.93 Mozambique v Gabon 1-1
30.01.93 Senegal v Mozambique 6-1
27.02.93 Senegal v Gabon 1-0

★ *Mauritania withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SENEGAL	4	3	0	1	10	4	6
Gabon	4	2	1	1	7	5	5
Mozambique	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

GROUP H

11.01.92 Madagascar v Namibia 3-0
25.10.92 Namibia v Zambia 0-4
20.12.92 Madagascar v Zambia 2-0
17.01.93 Namibia v Madagascar 0-1
30.01.93 Zambia v Namibia 4-0
27.02.93 Zambia v Madagascar 3-1

★ *Burkina Faso withdrew and were replaced by Namibia. Tanzania also withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ZAMBIA	4	3	0	1	11	3	6
Madagascar	4	3	0	1	7	3	6
Namibia	4	0	0	4	0	12	0

GROUP I

20.12.92 Guinea v Kenya 4-0
27.02.93 Kenya v Guinea 2-0

★ *Gambia & Mali withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
GUINEA	2	1	0	1	4	2	2
Kenya	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

CONCACAF

23 entries (27 members, Cuba withdrew)

● *Winners of Group A play (home & away) against winners of Group B. Winning nation qualifies for finals. Runners-up play Oceania winners for right to play South America Group A runners-up for a place in the finals (United States qualify as hosts).*

Pre-preliminary Round

CARIBBEAN REGION — NORTH

21.03.92 Dominican Rep. v P. Rico 1-2
22.03.92 St Lucia v St Vincent 1-0
29.03.92 P. Rico v Dominican Rep. 1-1
29.03.92 St Vincent v St Lucia 3-1

Preliminary Round

CARIBBEAN REGION — NORTH

26.04.92 Bermuda v Haiti 1-0
25.05.92 Jamaica v Puerto Rico 2-1
25.05.92 Haiti v Bermuda 2-1
30.05.92 Puerto Rico v Jamaica 0-1
St Vincent v Cuba★

★ *Cuba withdrew.*

St Vincent, Bermuda & Jamaica qualify for 1st rnd

CARIBBEAN REGION — SOUTH

19.04.92 Dutch Antilles v Antigua 1-1
26.04.92 Antigua v Dutch Antilles 3-0
26.04.92 Guyana v Surinam 1-2
24.05.92 Barbados v Trin. & Tobago 1-2
25.05.92 Surinam v Guyana 1-1
31.05.92 Trin. & Tobago v Barbados 3-0

Trinidad & Tobago, Antigua and Surinam qualify for 1st rnd

First Round

CENTRAL REGION

19.07.92 Guatemala v Honduras 0-0
19.07.92 Nicaragua v El Salvador 0-5
23.07.92 El Salvador v Nicaragua 5-1
26.07.92 Honduras v Guatemala 2-0
16.08.92 Panama v Costa Rica 1-0
23.08.92 Costa Rica v Panama 5-1

El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica qualify for 2nd rnd

CARIBBEAN REGION

14.06.92 Antigua v Bermuda 0-3
05.07.92 Trinidad & Tobago v Jamaica 1-2
04.07.92 Bermuda v Antigua 2-1
02.08.92 Surinam v St Vincent 0-0
16.08.92 Jamaica v Trinidad & Tobago 1-1
30.08.92 St Vincent v Surinam 2-1

Bermuda, Jamaica and St Vincent qualify for 2nd rnd

Second Round

GROUP A

08.11.92 Costa Rica v Honduras 2-3
08.11.92 St Vincent v Mexico 0-4
15.11.92 Mexico v Honduras 2-0
15.11.92 St Vincent v Costa Rica 0-1
22.11.92 Mexico v Costa Rica 4-0
22.11.92 St Vincent v Honduras 0-4
28.11.92 Honduras v St Vincent 4-0
29.11.92 Costa Rica v Mexico 2-0
05.12.92 Honduras v Costa Rica 2-1
06.12.92 Mexico v St Vincent 11-0
13.12.92 Costa Rica v St Vincent 5-0
13.12.92 Honduras v Mexico 1-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MEXICO	6	4	1	1	22	3	9
HONDURAS	6	4	1	1	14	6	9
Costa Rica	6	3	0	3	11	9	6
St. Vincent	6	0	0	6	0	29	0

Mexico & Honduras qualify for final rnd

GROUP B

18.10.92 Jamaica v Canada 1-1
18.10.92 Bermuda v El Salvador 1-0
25.10.92 El Salvador v Canada 1-1
25.10.92 Bermuda v Jamaica 1-1
01.11.92 Canada v Jamaica 1-0
01.11.92 El Salvador v Bermuda 4-1
08.11.92 Canada v El Salvador 2-3
08.11.92 Jamaica v Bermuda 3-2
15.11.92 Canada v Bermuda 4-2
22.11.92 Jamaica v El Salvador 0-2
06.12.92 Bermuda v Canada 0-0
06.12.92 El Salvador v Jamaica 2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
EL SALVADOR	6	4	1	1	12	6	9
CANADA	6	2	3	1	9	7	7
Jamaica	6	1	2	3	6	9	4
Bermuda	6	1	2	3	7	12	4

El Salvador & Canada qualify for final rnd

Final Round

04.04.93 El Salvador v Mexico 2-1
04.04.93 Honduras v Canada
11.04.93 Mexico v Honduras
11.04.93 Canada v El Salvador
18.04.93 Canada v Honduras
18.04.93 Mexico v El Salvador
25.04.93 Mexico v Canada
25.04.93 Honduras v El Salvador
02.05.93 Honduras v Mexico
02.05.93 El Salvador v Canada
09.05.93 Canada v Mexico
09.05.93 El Salvador v Honduras

SOUTH AMERICA

9 entries (10 members, Chile suspended)

● *Winners of Group A & winners & runners-up in Group B qualify for finals. Group A runners-up play winners of CONCACAF/ Oceania play-off for a place in the finals.*

GROUP A

Argentina, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru.

01.08.93 Colombia v Paraguay
01.08.93 Peru v Argentina
08.08.93 Paraguay v Argentina
08.08.93 Peru v Colombia
15.08.93 Colombia v Argentina
15.08.93 Paraguay v Peru
22.08.93 Argentina v Peru
22.08.93 Paraguay v Colombia
29.08.93 Argentina v Paraguay
29.08.93 Colombia v Peru
05.09.93 Argentina v Colombia
05.09.93 Peru v Paraguay

GROUP B

Brazil, Uruguay, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela.

08.07.93 Ecuador v Brazil
08.07.93 Venezuela v Bolivia
25.07.93 Bolivia v Brazil
25.07.93 Venezuela v Uruguay
01.08.93 Uruguay v Ecuador
01.08.93 Venezuela v Brazil
08.08.93 Bolivia v Uruguay
08.08.93 Ecuador v Venezuela
15.08.93 Bolivia v Ecuador
15.08.93 Uruguay v Brazil
22.08.93 Bolivia v Venezuela
22.08.93 Brazil v Ecuador
29.08.93 Brazil v Bolivia
29.08.93 Uruguay v Venezuela
05.09.93 Brazil v Venezuela
05.09.93 Uruguay v Ecuador
12.09.93 Uruguay v Bolivia
12.09.93 Venezuela v Ecuador
19.09.93 Brazil v Uruguay
19.09.93 Ecuador v Bolivia

OCEANIA

7 entries (8 members, Western Samoa withdrew)

● *The two Group winners play (home & away) with the winners qualifying to meet the CONCACAF runners-up. The winners of that match will meet the South America Group A runners-up for a place in the finals.*

GROUP 1

11.07.92 Solomon Islands v Tahiti 1-1
04.09.92 Solomon Islands v Australia 1-2
11.09.92 Tahiti v Australia 0-3
20.09.92 Australia v Tahiti 2-0
25.09.92 Australia v Solomon Islands 6-1
09.10.92 Tahiti v Solomon Islands 4-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AUSTRALIA	4	4	0	0	13	2	8
Tahiti	4	1	1	2	5	8	3
Solomon Islands	4	0	1	3	5	13	1

Australia qualify for final play-off

GROUP 2

07.06.92 New Zealand v Fiji 3-0
27.06.92 Vanuatu v New Zealand 1-4
01.07.92 New Zealand v Vanuatu 8-0
12.09.92 Fiji v Vanuatu 3-0
19.09.92 Fiji v New Zealand 0-0
26.09.92 Vanuatu v Fiji 0-3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NEW ZEALAND	4	3	1	0	15	1	7
Fiji	4	2	1	1	6	3	5
Vanuatu	4	0	0	4	1	18	0

New Zealand qualify for final play-off

PLAY-OFF

1st leg
29.05.93 New Zealand v Australia

2nd leg
06.06.93 Australia v New Zealand

ASIA

29 entries (36 members)

● *The six Group winners qualify for Second Round, to be played as (home & away) mini-league. Winners & runners-up qualify for finals.*

First Round

GROUP A

22.05.93 Jordan v Yemen ▲
22.05.93 Pakistan v China ▲
24.05.93 Jordan v Iraq ▲
24.05.93 Yemen v Pakistan ▲
26.05.93 Jordan v China ▲
26.05.93 Yemen v Iraq ▲
28.05.93 Pakistan v Iraq ▲
28.05.93 Yemen v China ▲
30.05.93 Jordan v Pakistan ▲
30.05.93 Iraq v China ▲
12.06.93 Yemen v Jordan ▼
12.06.93 China v Pakistan ▼
14.06.93 Iraq v Jordan ▼
14.06.93 Pakistan v Yemen ▼
16.06.93 China v Jordan ▼
16.06.93 Iraq v Yemen ▼
18.06.93 Iraq v Pakistan ▼
18.06.93 China v Yemen ▼
20.06.93 Pakistan v Jordan ▼
20.06.93 China v Iraq ▼

▲ in Amman, Jordan
▼ in Beijing, China

GROUP B

28.06.93 Iran v Oman ▲
28.06.93 Taiwan v Syria ▲
30.06.93 Oman v Syria ▲
30.06.93 Iran v Taiwan ▲
02.07.93 Oman v Taiwan ▲
02.07.93 Iran v Syria ▲
07.07.93 Oman v Iran ▼
07.07.93 Syria v Taiwan ▼
09.07.93 Syria v Oman ▼
09.07.93 Taiwan v Iran ▼
11.07.93 Taiwan v Oman ▼
11.07.93 Syria v Iran ▼

▲ in Tehran, Iran
▼ in Damascus, Syria
★ *Myanmar withdrew.*

GROUP C

09.04.93 Qatar v Indonesia ▲
09.04.93 North Korea v Vietnam ▲
11.04.93 North Korea v Singapore ▲
11.04.93 Qatar v Vietnam ▲
13.04.93 North Korea v Indonesia ▲
13.04.93 Vietnam v Singapore ▲
16.04.93 Qatar v Singapore ▲
16.04.93 Vietnam v Indonesia ▲
24.04.93 Indonesia v Qatar ▼
24.04.93 Vietnam v North Korea ▼
26.04.93 Singapore v North Korea ▼
26.04.93 Vietnam v Qatar ▼
28.04.93 Indonesia v North Korea ▼
28.04.93 Singapore v Vietnam ▼
30.04.93 Singapore v Qatar ▼
30.04.93 Indonesia v Vietnam ▼
02.05.93 Singapore v Indonesia ▼
02.05.93 North Korea v Qatar ▼

▲ in Doha, Qatar
▼ in Singapore

GROUP D

07.05.93 Lebanon v India ▲
07.05.93 Hong Kong v Bahrain ▲
09.05.93 Bahrain v South Korea ▲
09.05.93 Lebanon v Hong Kong ▲
11.05.93 India v Hong Kong ▲
11.05.93 Lebanon v South Korea ▲
13.05.93 Lebanon v Bahrain ▲
13.05.93 India v South Korea ▲
15.05.93 Hong Kong v South Korea ▲
15.05.93 Bahrain v India ▲
05.06.93 South Korea v Hong Kong ▼
05.06.93 Bahrain v Lebanon ▼
07.06.93 India v Bahrain ▼
07.06.93 South Korea v Lebanon ▼
09.06.93 Hong Kong v Lebanon ▼
09.06.93 South Korea v India ▼
11.06.93 India v Lebanon ▼
11.06.93 Bahrain v Hong Kong ▼
13.06.93 South Korea v Bahrain ▼
13.06.93 Hong Kong v India ▼

▲ in Beirut, Lebanon
▼ in Seoul, South Korea

GROUP E

01.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Macao ▲
01.05.93 Malaysia v Kuwait ▲
03.05.93 Kuwait v Macao ▲
03.05.93 Malaysia v Saudi Arabia ▲
05.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Kuwait ▲
05.05.93 Malaysia v Macao ▲
14.05.93 Malaysia v Kuwait ▼
14.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Macao ▼
16.05.93 Macao v Kuwait ▼
16.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Malaysia ▼
18.05.93 Malaysia v Macao ▼
18.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Kuwait ▼

▲ in Kuala Lumpur
▼ in Riyadh

GROUP F

08.04.93 Japan v Thailand ▲
08.04.93 Sri Lanka v UAE ▲
11.04.93 Japan v Bangladesh ▲
11.04.93 Thailand v Sri Lanka ▲
13.04.93 Sri Lanka v Bangladesh ▲
13.04.93 UAE v Thailand ▲
15.04.93 Japan v Sri Lanka ▲
15.04.93 UAE v Bangladesh ▲
18.04.93 Japan v UAE ▲
18.04.93 Thailand v Bangladesh ▲
28.04.93 Thailand v Japan ▼
28.04.93 UAE v Sri Lanka ▼
30.04.93 Bangladesh v Japan ▼
30.04.93 Thailand v UAE ▼
03.05.93 Bangladesh v UAE ▼
03.05.93 Sri Lanka v Thailand ▼
05.05.93 Bangladesh v Thailand ▼
05.05.93 Sri Lanka v Japan ▼
07.05.93 Bangladesh v Sri Lanka ▼
07.05.93 UAE v Japan ▼

▲ in Tokyo, Japan
▼ in Dubai, UAE

Easy . . . Dina Baggio helps in Italy's 6-1 win over Malta.

Airbourne . . . Eykelkemp and Van Den Brom of Holland with Valentini of San Marino.

Punching . . . Pat Bonner clears during the clash between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Chasing . . . Melendel (El Salvador) and Wright (Jamaica)

EUROPE

AUSTRIA

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 14

WEEKEND

ADMIRA WACKER 1
RAPID WIEN 2

AUSTRIA WIEN 0
SALZBURG 0

WACKER INNSBRUCK 5
SPORTCLUB 0

ST POLTEN 1
VORWARTS STEYR 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 21

WEEKEND

VORWARTS STEYR 0
ADMIRA WACKER 3

AUSTRIA WIEN 2
WACKER INNSBRUCK 0

SALZBURG 1
RAPID WIEN 0

SPORTCLUB 1
ST POLTEN 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria Salzburg	26	14	8	4	49	27	22
Austria Vienna	26	14	6	6	52	27	20
Wacker Innsbruck	26	12	8	6	52	26	18
Rapid	26	11	9	6	41	31	18
Admira Wacker	26	13	3	10	55	37	17
Sportclub	26	12	5	9	35	45	16
St Polten	26	7	12	7	37	40	15
Vorwarts Steyr	26	8	6	12	31	43	11

● *Clubs carry half their Autumn season points total forward to the play-off phase.*

BELGIUM

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 14

WEEKEND

BOOM 1 (Vereycken 12)
MECHELEN 1 (Bartholomeussen 47). **Att:** 6,000.

EKEREN 5 (Claesen 12, 19, 53, 60, Hofmans 51)
BEVEREN 2 (Soudan 25, Bogarts 66). **Att:** 4,000.

CLUB BRUGGE 3 (Schaessens 52, 54, Amokachi 62)
LOKEREN 1 (De Bruc 88). **Att:** 7,000.

LIERSE 2 (Rekdal 29, 58)
CERCLE BRUGGE 1 (Karacic 31). **Att:** 4,500.

CHARLEROI 1 (Jacquemart 47)
RWDM 0. **Att:** 9,000.

GENT 4 (Van der Linden 15, Viscaal 32, 72, De Boover 77)
WAREGEM 0. **Att:** 8,000.

LOMMEL 0
ANTWERP 4 (Kiekens 70, Severeyns 73, 84, Czerniatynski 89). **Att:** 8,000.

ANDERLECHT 5 (Boffin 5, 40, Bosman 18, Versavel 25, Van Vossen 64)
GENK 0. **Att:** 18,000.

STANDARD 3 (Vos 2, 62, Bodart 19)
LIEGE 0. **Att:** 15,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 21

WEEKEND

LIEGE 3 (Arnold 13, 88, Godfroi 40)
BOOM 0. **Att:** 2,000.

BEVEREN 1 (Bogaerts 18)
STANDARD 0. **Att:** 7,000.

RWDM 2 (Lorincz 40, Rubinilson 73)
LOMMEL 0. **Att:** 6,500.

GENK 3 (Busuttil 15, 78, Claesen 32)
GENT 0. **Att:** 6,000.

LOKEREN 2 (De Brui 8, Myyry 16)
CHARLEROI 2 (Van Meir 50, 73). **Att:** 4,500.

WAREGEM 2 (Kruzen 54, Teppers 76)
LIERSE 1 (Van Nuffelen 70). **Att:** 5,500.

MECHELEN 2 (Vermant 33, Ingesson 47)
CLUB BRUGGE 0. **Att:** 12,000.

CERCLE BRUGGE 1 (Siquet 31)
EKEREN 2 (Claesen 11, Hofmans 83). **Att:** 3,000.

ANTWERP 0
ANDERLECHT 2 (Bosman 34, Boffin 88). **Att:** 18,000.

Antwerp's Alex Czerniatynski.

LEADING SCORERS

1 ..... **Weber** (Cercle Bruges) 23
2 ..... **Severeyns** (Antwerp) 18
Vidmar (Waregem) 18
4 ..... **Kruzen** (Waregem) 17
Nilis (Anderlecht) 17
6 ..... **Czerniatynski** (Antwerp) 15

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Anderlecht	27	21	5	1	66	20	47
Standard	28	15	7	6	53	33	37
Waregem	28	14	6	8	66	40	34
Club Brugge	28	14	6	8	41	27	34
Antwerp	28	13	5	10	50	40	31
Beveren	28	13	5	10	40	36	31
RWDM	28	10	11	7	37	29	31
Mechelen	27	13	4	10	38	29	30
Gent	28	11	8	9	41	35	30
Charleroi	28	11	8	9	43	39	30
Lierse	28	12	5	11	41	39	29
Liege	28	9	7	12	37	54	25
Genk	27	7	10	10	30	33	24
Ekeren	27	9	5	13	45	52	23
Cercle Bruges	28	6	9	13	53	64	21
Boom	28	5	4	18	34	82	15

HOLLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 14

MIDWEEK

VOLENDAM 3 (Steur 7, Berghuis 34, De Freitas 48)
DEN BOSCH 0. **Att:** 2,900.

RODA JC 1 (Hofstede 27)
AJAX 3 (Litmanen 18, R. De Boer 21, Pettersson 90). **Att:** 7,000.

CUP — QUARTER-FINAL

PEC ZWOLLE 1
FEYENOORD 1
Feyenoord won 4-1 on pens

WEEKEND

VITESSE 1 (Gillhaus 3)
CAMBUUR 1 (Spork 36 pen). **Att:** 5,739.

AJAX 2 (Vink 66, Van Hagen 76 o.g.)
RKC 1 (Haas 81). **Att:** 18,631.

DEN BOSCH 4 (Van Den Heide 36, Burg 50, Wolfs 64, Van Eck 81)
RODA JC 3 (Hofstede 19, Van Den Luer 25 pen, Hann 51). **Att:** 2,216.

FORTUNA SITTARD 1 (Szalma 1)
UTRECHT 1 (Plugboer 44). **Att:** 2,000.

MVV 1 (Kras 77)
VOLENDAM 0. **Att:** 6,811.

TWENTE 2 (Gaasbeek 31, Vurens 65)
SVV/DORDRECHT 3 (Wollden 41, Barendse 46, Simons 52). **Att:** 5,400.

FEYENOORD 1 (Gorre 90)
PSV 1 (Romario 10). **Att:** 5,400.

GRONINGEN 2 (Van Kessel 24, Huizingh 81)
GA EAGLES 1 (Pothoven 42). **Att:** 6,200.

WILLEM II 5 (Van Arum 21, Feskens 42, Vincent 60, Hofstede 69, Stewart 86)
SPARTA 0. **Att:** 5,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 21

WEEKEND

VOLENDAM 1 (Steur 89)
FEYENOORD 2 (Blinker 21, 35). **Att:** 9,000.

PSV 1 (Linskens 50)
WILLEM II 1 (Van Geel 43). **Att:** 27,400.

RODA JC 0
MVV 0. **Att:** 6,000.

SPARTA 1 (De Getrouwe 86)
GRONINGEN 0. **Att:**2,700.

RKC 4 (Boogers 22, 43, 55, Brands 83 pen)
DEN BOSCH 2 (Derksen 56, Van Eck 61). **Att:** 3,200.

GA EAGLES 2 (Steinman 11, Pothoven 45)
FC TWENTE 1 (Vurens 30). **Att:** 7,000.

CAMBUUR 1 (Silloy o.g.)
AJAX 3 (Berkgamp 1, 43, Overmars 75). **Att:** 13,500.

SVV/DORDRECHT 1 (Kraay 49)
FORTUNA SITTARD 2 (Losada 42, Nysater 80). **Att:** 9,000.

UTRECHT 0
VITESSE 3 (Cocu 17, Loeffen 83, Latuheru 90). **Att:** 5,709.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 28

WEEKEND

VITESSE 2 (Van Den Brom 8 pen, Cocu 26)
AJAX 2 (Seedorf 67, Petterson 90). **Att:** 11,000.

UTRECHT 1 (Van Den Net 20)
SVV/DORDRECHT 1 (Simons 16). **Att:** 4,000.

DEN BOSCH 3 (Keizer 40, Smeets 43, Van Eck 77)
CAMBUUR 2 (Konterman 5, Nyhuis 25). **Att:** 2,086.

FORTUNA SITTARD 3 (A. Janssen 5, Losada 10, Sneekes 52)
GA EAGLES 1 (Boere 13). **Att:** 2,500.

MVV 1 (Lanckohr 7)
RKC 1 (Van Aerde 47). **Att:** 6,000.

FC TWENTE 5 (Polley 5, 58, Van Lialst 8 pen, Pahlplatz 12, Vurens 77)
SPARTA 0. **Att:** 4,700.

FEYENOORD 3 (Witschge 30, Taument 46, Bosz 73)
RODA JC 0. **Att:** 22,613.

GRONINGEN 0
PSV 1 (Vanenburg 49). **Att:** 14,012.

WILLEM II 1 (Stewart 69)
VOLENDAM 3 (Berghuis 13, 28, Kras 90). **Att:** 6,050.

LEADING SCORERS

1 ..... **Bergkamp** (Ajax) 20
2 ..... **Meyer** (MVV) 15
3 ..... **Romario** (PSV) 14
4 ..... **De Goer** (FC Twente) 13
5 ..... **Kiprich** (Feyenoord) 12

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Feyenoord	26	16	8	2	59	24	40
PSV Eindhoven	25	17	5	3	56	21	39
Ajax	26	15	8	3	65	21	38
FC Twente	26	14	6	6	51	24	34
Vitesse	26	10	12	4	41	23	32
MVV	26	13	6	7	40	31	32
Voldendam	26	10	10	6	37	20	30
Utrecht	25	9	9	7	32	28	27
Willem II	26	9	8	9	31	25	26
RKC Waalwijk	26	9	8	9	39	45	26
Sparta	26	7	8	11	27	48	22
Groningen	24	6	8	10	22	33	20
GA Eagles	26	7	6	13	32	50	20
Cambuur	26	3	12	11	28	41	18
Roda JC	25	6	4	15	34	51	16
Fortuna Sittard	25	6	3	16	25	58	15
Den Bosch	26	4	7	15	27	62	15
SVV/Dordrecht	26	3	6	17	17	58	12

PORTUGAL

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 14

WEEKEND

BELENENSES 0
ESTORIL 0

PACOS FERREIRA 1
MARITIMO 1

SPORTING 0
GIL VICENTE 0

TIRSENSE 2
BEIRA-MAR 1

FARENSE 0
BENFICA 0

SALGUEIROS 0
GUIMARAES 1

ESPINHO 2
BOAVISTA 2

FAMALICAO 2
CHAVES 1

BRAGA 0
FC PORTO 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 21

WEEKEND

GUIMARAES 1
FAMALICAO 0

GIL VICENTE 0
BELENENSES 1

BEIRA MAR 1
SALGUEIROS 0

ESTORIL 0
PACOS FERFEIRA 0

CHAVES 2
BRAGA 1

MARITIMO 3
TIRSENSE 1

Charles Wittl of Neuchatel Xamax in action of Young Boys.

SWITZERLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 14

WEEKEND

LUGANO 1 (Zuffi 65 pen)
LAUSANNE 0. **Att:** 2,000.

SERVETTE 0
ZURICH 2 (Studer 26, Grassi 87). **Att:** 4,200.

SION 0
AARAU 1 (Alersandrou 19). **Att:** 4,300.

YOUNG BOYS 4 (Jacobsen 40, Kuffer 56, Hanzi 62, Nowak 75)
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 0. **Att:** 9,200.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 21

WEEKEND

CUP — 4TH ROUND
(MAIN RESULTS)

CHATEL ST DENIS 1
LAUSANNE 3

MENDRISIO 0
FC ZURICH 3

BADEN 1
YOUNG BOYS 5

VGE 0
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 4

AARAU 1
GRASSHOPPER 2

BULLE 1
FC SION 4

BERTHOUD 0
LUCERNE 2

FULLY 0
SERVETTE 5

SCHAFFHOUSE 0
ST GALLEN 0
Schaffhouse won 6-3 on pens

GOSSAU 1
LUGANO 3

YOUNG FELLOWS 0
BALE 3

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 28

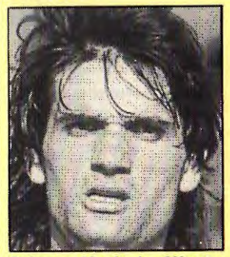
WEEKEND

ZURICH 0
SION 0

AARAU 2
YOUNG BOYS 0

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 0
LUGANO 0

LAUSANNE 1
SERVETTE 3



Guiseppe Manfreda of Xamax.

LEADING SCORERS

1 ..... **Anderson** (Servette) 15
2 ..... **Aleksandrov** (Aarau) 13
Jakobsen (Young Boys) 13
4 ..... **Tulio** (Sion) 11
5 ..... **Fink** (Lausanne) 10
6 ..... **Zuffi** (Lugano) 9
Manfreda (Neuchatel Xamax) 9

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aarau	4	3	1	0	6	1	19
Young Boys	4	2	1	1	5	2	19
Lugano	4	2	2	0	4	1	17
Sion	4	1	1	2	3	3	16
Zurich	4	1	2	1	2	2	16
Servette	4	1	0	3	3	8	16
Neuchatel Xamax	4	1	1	2	4	7	14
Lausanne	4	1	0	3	2	5	14

● *Clubs carry half their Autumn season points total forward to the play-off phase.*

Jorge Cadette of Sporting Lisbon.

LEADING SCORERS

1 ..... **Cadette** (Sporting) 12
2 ..... **Andrade** (Maritimo) 10
3 ..... **Balakov** (Sporting) 10
4 ..... **Artur** (Boavista) 9
5 ..... **Edmilsson** (Maritimo) 9
Timofte (Porto) 8

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Porto	25	19	3	3	47	13	41
Benfica	26	17	6	3	43	11	40
Sporting	26	13	8	5	40	19	34
Boavista	26	10	10	6	30	24	30
Maritimo	26	11	6	9	39	30	28
Belenenses	26	9	10	7	26	25	28
Farense	25	8	9	8	28	24	25
Guimaraes	26	11	3	12	27	34	25
Famalicao	26	8	9	9	21	27	25
Beira-Mar	26	8	9	9	18	23	25
Gil Vicente	26	9	6	11	26	32	24
Pacos Ferreira	26	7	9	10	25	37	23
Espinho	26	7	8	11	28	41	22
Estoril	26	6	9	11	23	35	21
Tirsense	26	7	7	12	20	28	21
Braga	26	8	4	14	21	27	20
Salgueiros	26	6	8	12	20	36	20
Chaves	26	4	6	16	28	42	14

INTERNATIONAL

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Feb 21 = **San Jose — CONCACAF chp**
COSTA RICA 2 (Rodriguez 27, Paniagua 40 pen)
NICARAGUA 0
Att: 2,824. **Ref:** Alvarado (ES)
Costa Rica: Mayorga — Gomez, Barquero, Gonzalez (Peinado 58), Rodriguez (Rowe 65), Parks, Paniagua, Lopez, Astua, Campos, Velazquez.
Nicaragua: Orellana — Gonzalez, Oliva, Bado (Zambrano 73), Barrios, Mayorga, Cruz, Vendana (Arguello 58), Narvaez, R Cruz, Rostran.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Mar 3 = **Asuncion — friendly**
PARAGUAY 1 (Franco 89)
BOLIVIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Martinez (Par)
Paraguay: Guerrero (Battaglia) — Nacimiento (Villamayor), Duarte (Meza) Ruiz (Ayala), Suarez — Acuna, Gamarra, Riveros — Ferreira (Garay), Cano, Franco.
Bolivia: Rojas — Sorulos (Salguero), Pena, Riveros, Francisquini — Cristado, Melgar, Castillo — Takeo (Pinedo), Villarroel (Rios), Moreno (Molina).

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Mar 5 = **Tegucigalpa, Honduras — Central American qual tmt**
COSTA RICA 1 (R Gomez 67)
EL SALVADOR 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Ulloa (CR)
Costa Rica: Lonis — Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Peinado, A Gomez, Barquero — Rowe (Guthrie 64), Paniagua, Arguedas — Fonseca (Michael Myers 80), R Gomez.
El Salvador: Rivera — Osorio, Orellana, Carcamo, Meza (Melendez 54) — Abrego, G Rivera (Ulloa 74), Castro — Palacios, Iraheta, Diaz Arce.

Mar 5 = **Tegucigalpa, Honduras — Central American qual tmt**
HONDURAS 2 (Castro 10 pen, Suazo 82)
PANAMA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Ulloa (CR)
Honduras: Rivera — Martinez, Yearwood, Castro, Fernandez — A Cruz, Calix, Rochez (Pineda 46) — Funes, Suazo, D Flores.
Panama: James — Bolivar, Poyatos, Delgado, Junio — Lozada, Botello, Ortega, Ariza (Gutierrez 46) — Diaz, Piggott.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

Mar 7 = **Fukuoka — Kirin Cup**
JAPAN 0
HUNGARY 1 (Kiprich 47)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Majd (US)
Japan: Kazuya Maekawa — Takumi Horkhe, Masami Ihara, Satashi Tsunami — Hajime Moriyasu, Tsuyoshi Kitazawa (Kurosaki 14), Milsunori Yoshida, Masahiro Fukuda — Takuya Takagi (Nakayama 20), Kazuyoshi Miura.
Hungary: Brockhauser — Tibor Nagy, Telek, Duro, Lorincz, Czabi — Marton, Fodor (I Pisont 73), Detari — Kiprich (T Balog 79), K Kovacs.

Mar 7 = **Tegucigalpa, Honduras — Central American qual tmt**
PANAMA 1 (Ortega 83 pen)
EL SALVADOR 1 (Diaz Arce 48)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 11,100. **Ref:** Sabillon (Hon)

Mar 7 = **Tegucigalpa, Honduras — Central American qual tmt**
HONDURAS 2 (Suazo 53, Calix 56)
COSTA RICA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 11,100. **Ref:** Rodriguez (ES)
Honduras: W Cruz — Martinez, A Cruz, Castro, Yearwood, Fernandez (Anariba), Calix (Roches), Pineda, Funes, Suazo, Flores.
Costa Rica: Lonis — Gomez (Fonseca), Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Barquero, Peinado, Guthrie, Paniagua, Gomez, Arguedas, Velazquez.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

Mar 9 = **Tegucigalpa, Honduras — Central American qual tmt**
COSTA RICA 2 (Guthrie 6, Fonseca 21)
PANAMA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 9,859. **Ref:** Hall (US)
Costa Rica: Lonis — *Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Peinado, Barquero, Gutrie, *Rowe, Paniagua, Arguedas, Fonseca, Gomez. **Subs:** Park, Mayers. *Gonzalez and Rowe sent off.
Panama: James — Clark, *Poyatos, Lozada, Bolivar, Ortega, Delgado, Julio, *Mendieta, Piggot, Diaz. **Subs:** Medina, Castillo. *Poyatos and Mendieta sent off.

Mar 9 = **Tegucigalpa — Central American qual tmt**
HONDURAS 3 (Suazo 35, 43, 79)
EL SALVADOR 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 9,859. **Ref:** Brizio (Mex)
Honduras: W Cruz (Rivera) — Martinez, Yearwood, Castro, Fernandez, A Cruz, Calix, Funes, Pineda, Suazo, Flores.
Sub: Arzu.
El Salvador: Garcia — Osorio, Orellana, Carcamo, Abrego, Mayen, Castro, Rivera, Palacios, Diaz, Iraheta. **Sub:** Melendez.

Final standings: Honduras 6pts; Costa Rica 4; Panama 1; El Salvador 1.

Mar 9 = **Vancouver — intl friendly**
CANADA 0
SOUTH KOREA 2 (Tae Young-kim 18, Hyun Seok-kim 87)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 1,554. **Ref:** Parra (Can)
Canada: Dolan — James (Carter 46), Rizi (Sarantopoulos 82), Watson, McDonald — Scott (Valentine 55), Limniatis, Hooper (Dasovic 53) — Mitchell, Catliff (Berdusco 69), Thompson.
S Korea: Sang Kwang-cha — Yong Hwan-yung, Tae Young-kim, Do Keun-kim, Tae Kyung-noh — Hong Gi-shin, Jae Kwon-jung, Jeong Woon-ko, Nam Jeol-park — Hyeok Jeong-kim, Jung Won-seo.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

Mar 10 = **Serravalle — WC Euro gp 2**
SAN MARINO 0
TURKEY 0
Att: 957. **Ref:** Biraux (Bel)
San Marino: Benedettini (Muccioli 9) — Canti, Gennari, Zanotti, Valentini, Guerra, Manzaroli, M Mazza (Matteoni 61), P Mazza, Bacciochi, Francini.
Turkey: Engin — Serhat (Hami 62), Bulent, Ali, Ogun, Tugay, Aykut, Unal, Mehmet, Saffet, Oran.

Mar 10 = **Vienna — friendly intl**
AUSTRIA 2 (Pfeifenberger 3, Baier 13)
GREECE 1 (Machlas 38)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Molnar (Hun)
Austria: Wohlfahrt — Streiter (Kogler 46), Pecl, Zsak, Wazinger — Cerny, Bauer (Feiersinger 46), Stoger (Kirchler 68), Kuhbauer — Polster, Pfeifenberger.
Greece: Minou (Haniotakis 46) — Karataidis (Alexiou 46), Manolas, Kalitsidakis, Kapuranis, Antoniou, Mitropulos, Maragos (Tsaluhidis 46), Noplias — Georgiadis (Karasavidis 46; Kostis 52), Mahlas.

Mar 10 = **Nagoya — Kirin Cup**
HUNGARY 0
UNITED STATES 0
Att: 12,500. **Ref:** Obata (Jap)
Hungary: Petry — Lorincz, Duro, Csabi, Urban, Telek, Detari, Marton, Lipcsei (Balog 81), Kiprich (Nagy 89), K Kovacs.
US: Friedel — Balboa, Lapper, Clavijo, Caligiuri, Dooley, Quinn, Henderson, Murray (Jones 80), Perez (Moore 89), Harbor.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

Mar 11 = **Victoria — intl friendly**
CANADA 2 (Catliff 20, Berdusco 70)
SOUTH KOREA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 1,212. **Ref:** Sawtell (Can)
Canada: Onstad — Sarantopoulos, McDonald, Watson, Rizi — Valentine (Mitchell 46), Norman, Dasovic (Hooper 70) — Aunger, Catliff, Berdusco.
S Korea: Bum Chul-sin — Yong Hwan-jung, Tae Young-kim, Do Keun-kim, Hong Gi-shin — Jeong Woon-ko, Tae Young-sin, Nam Yeol-park — Ji Ho-park (Jeong Hyeok-kim 58), Jung Won-seo, Hyun Seok-kim (Jae Kwon-jung 46).

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

Mar 12 = **San Salvador — intl friendly**
EL SALVADOR 2 (Diaz Arce 41, 72)
BOLIVIA 2 (Villarroel 33, Castillo 80)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Gomez (ES)
El Salvador: C Rivera — Osorio, Trigueros (Orellana 82), Carcamo, Abrego — Castro (Vazquez 82), G Rivera, Melendez, Palacios (Ulloa 62) — Diaz Arce, Iraheta.
Bolivia: Rojas — Pena, Francisquini, Rivera, Sonuco — Cristaldo, Villarroel (Rios 52), Melgar, Castillo — Takeo (Pinedo 79), Molina (Gareca 60).

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

Mar 14 = **Tokyo — Kirin Cup**
JAPAN 3 (Miura 36, 80, Lapper og 68)
UNITED STATES 1 (Perez 23)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 48,000. **Ref:** Kim (SK)
Japan: Maekawa — Tsunami, Katsuya, Horike, Ihara, Yoshida, Fukuda, Kitazawa, Moriyasu, Miura, Takagi (Nakayama 83).
US: Meola — Balboa, Lapper, Clavijo, Caligiuri, Dooley, Quinn (Armstrong 69), Henderson, Murray (Jones 73), Perez, Harbor.

Mar 14 = **San Pedro Sula — intl friendly**
HONDURAS 0
BOLIVIA 0
Att: 2,000. **Ref:** Sabillon (Hon)
Honduras: Rivera — Martinez, Yearwood, Castro, Fernandez — Cruz (Arzu 46), Funes, Pineda, Rochez (Beneth 60) — Suazo, Flores.
Bolivia: Rojas — Pena, Francisquini, Rivera, Soruco — Cristaldo, Villarroel (Gareca 15), Melgar, Castillo — Takeo (Rios 46), Molina (Pinedo 70).

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

Mar 16 = **Tegucigalpa — intl friendly**
HONDURAS 0
BOLIVIA 0
Att: 8,000. **Ref:** Ramirez (Hon)
Honduras: Rivera — Arzu (Martinez 46), Yearwood, Castro, Fernandez — Cruz, Funes, Pineda, Calix — Suazo (Benneth 46), Flores.
Bolivia: Rojas (Torrico 46) — Pena, Francisquini, Rivera, Soruco — Cristaldo (Villarroel 70), Rios, Melgar (Molina 62), Pinedo — Takeo, Gareca.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

Mar 17 = **Tunis — intl friendly**
TUNISIA 0
SWITZERLAND 1 (Knup 87)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 6,000. **Ref:** Koussa (Alg)
Tunisia: El Ouar — Okbi, Mhadhni, Mhaissi, Zdiri — Gherbi, Mizouri (Ayadi 81), Chihi, S Sellimi — A Sellimi, Hamrouni (Scader 81). **Switzerland:** Pascolo — Hottiger, Egli (Vega 39), Geiger, Rothenbuhler — Ohrel, Bregy, Sforza, Bickel — Knup, Turkyilmaz (Bonvin 46).

Mar 17 = **Riberao Prato — intl friendly**
BRAZIL 2 (Swierczewski og 21, Muller 43)
POLAND 2 (Brzeczek 3, K Warzycha 68)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 49,222.
Brazil: Zetti — Luis Carloz Winck (Vitor 78), Antonio Carlos, Valber, Roberto Carlos (Lira 72), Cesar Sampaio, Rai, Zinho, Neto (Palhinha 70), Evair, Muller.
Poland: Klak (Matysek 46) — Czachowski, Kozminski, Waldoch, Jalocha (Rzepka 60), Swierczewski, Warzycha, Staniek, Brzeczek, Kosecki, Ziober (Gesior 65).

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

Mar 23 = **San Salvador — intl friendly**
EL SALVADOR 2 (Arce 29, Cienfuegos 69)
UNITED STATES 2 (Allnutt 49, Jones 53)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 23,000. **Ref:** Rodriguez (ES)
El Salvador: Garcia — Osorio, Trigueros, Carcano, Abrego, Borja, Rivera, Cienfuegos, Melendez (Estrada 73), Arce (Ulloa 64), Iraheta (Gonzalez 56).
US: Stanisic — Imler (Allnutt 43), Lapper, Agoos, Lalas, Sorber (Eichmann 75), Henderson, Chung, Moore, Jones (Prampin 89), Gjonbalaj (Ervine 69).

Mar 23 = **San Jose — intl friendly**
COSTA RICA 0
CANADA 1 (Miller 83)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,000.
Costa Rica: Mayorga — A Gomez, Pelnado, Gonzalez, Rowe — Alfaro, Arguedas, Paniagua, Guthrie — Barquero, R Gomez.
Canada: Forrest — Samuel, Dasovic, Miller, Limniatis — Mitchell, Bunbury, Peschisolido, Fenwick — Norman, Sweeney.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

Mar 24 = **Palermo — WC Euro gp 1**
ITALY 6 (D Baggio 19, Signori 38, Vierchowod 48, Mancini 59, 89, Maldini 73)
MALTA 1 (Busuttil 68 pen)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Nikakis (Gre)
Italy: Pagliuca (Marchegiani 80) — Porrini, Maldini, D Baggio, Vierchowod, Baresi, Fuser, Albertini, Melli, Mancini, Signori.
Malta: Cluett — S Vella, Zerafa, Galea, Saliba, Laferla, Busuttil, R Vella, Gregory (Delia 57), Degiorgio (Suda 73), Scerri.

Mar 24 = **Utrecht — WC Euro gp 2**
HOLLAND 6 (Van den Brom 2, Canti og 29, De Wolf 52, 85, R De Boer 68 pen, Van Vossen 78)
SAN MARINO 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 17,000.
Holland: De Goey — De Wolf, F De Boer, Winter, Rob Witschge, Wouters, Overmars, Meyer, Eykelkamp (R De Boer 46), Van den Brom, Blinker (Van Vossen 67).
San Marino: S Muccioli — Canti, Gennari, Matteoni (L Zanotti 22), Valentini, *Guerra, Manzaroli, M Mazza, Bacciocchi, Bonini, Francini. *Guerra sent off, 54min.

Mar 24 = **Limassol — WC Euro gp 4**
CYPRUS 1 (Sotiriou 47)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1 (Moravcik 33)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 3,000.
Cyprus: Y Ioannou — Costa, Pitta, D Ioannou, E Christofi, Yiangudakis, Xiuruppas (Panayi 86), Charalambous, Sotiriou, Papavasiliou (Larkou 71), Savvides.
Czechoslovakia: Kouba — Novotny, Suchoparek (P Berger 74), Vrabec, Glonek, Nemecek, Nemec, Hapal (Latal 46), P Kuka, Skuhravy, Moravcik.

Mar 24 = **Haifa — intl friendly**
ISRAEL 2 (Mizrahi 64, 69)
RUSSIA 2 (Popov 50, 61)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 3,000.

Mar 24 = **Glasgow/Ibrox — intl friendly**
SCOTLAND 0
GERMANY 1 (Riedle 19)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 36,400. **Ref:** Schelings (Bel)
Scotland: Walker — Wright (Booth 63), Irving, Levein, Boyd, Bowman, McLaren, Collins, McInally, J Robertson, D Ferguson.
Germany: Kopke — Buchwald, Helmer, Thon, Kohler, Hassler, Matthaus (Sammer 88), Zorc, Doll (Effenberg 59), Klinsmann, Riedle.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

Mar 25 = **Tegucigalpa — intl friendly**
HONDURAS 4 (Suazo 54, 73, Obando 64pen, Flores 80)
UNITED STATES 1 (Allnutt 44)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 24,000. **Ref:** Castro (Hon)
Honduras: Rivera — Roches, Yearwood, Castro, Sambula, Pineda, Funes (Obando 61), Calix, Suazo, Flores, Fernandez (Arzu 81).
US: Friedel — Lalas, Lapper, Agoos (Eichmann 28), Allnutt, Sorber, Henderson (Gjonbalaj 86), Chung (McBride 63), Moore, Jones (Prampin 83), Ervine.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

Mar 27 = **Vienna — WC Euro gp 6**
AUSTRIA 0
FRANCE 1 (Papin 58)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 37,500. **Ref:** Blankenstein (Hol)
Austria: Wohlfahrt — Pecl, Zsak, Artner, Feiersinger, Cerny, Kuhbauer, Schinkels (Ogris 71), Herzog, Polster, Pfeifenberger.
France: Lama — Angloma, Roche, Blanc, Petit, Lizarazu, Deschamps, Le Guen, Sauzee (Martins 87), Papin, Gravelaine (Loko 71).

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

Mar 30 = **Doha — intl friendly**
QATAR 1 (Soufi 66)
NORWAY 6 (Leonhardsen 6, Flo 26, Fjortoft 43, 51, 59, Jakobsen 74)
HT: 0-3. **Att:** 3,000. **Ref:** Philippoz (Swi)
Qatar: Younis Ahmed (Ahmed Khalil 46) — Hamad Mubarak, Nasser Sultan, Abdullah Hassan (Fahed Kuwair 55), Zamel Kowari — J

CONTINUED

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP

GROUP 1

Oct 13 *(Perth)*: **Scotland 0, Portugal 0. Oct 15** *(Cremona)*: **Italy 1** (Vieri 53), **Switzerland 0. Nov 17** *(Grenchen)*: **Switzerland 4** (Camenzind 15, Margarini 28, Comisetti 30, Karlen 37), **Malta 0. Dec 16** *(Valletta)*: **Malta 0, Italy 1** (Galea og 70). **Jan 23: Malta 0, Portugal 2** (Miguel Bruno 60, 77). **Feb 16** *(Aberdeen/Pittodrie)*: **Scotland 3** (Booth 31, 89, Ferguson 48), **Malta 0. Feb 23** *(Braga)*: **Portugal 2** (Jorge Costa 55, Toni 61), **Italy 0. Mar 23** *(Reggio Calabria)*: **Italy 3** (Panucci 39, Favalli 40, Muzzi 75), **Malta 0. Mar 30** *(Yverdon)*: **Switzerland 1** (Camenzind 24), **Portugal 1** (Miguel Bruno 18).

GROUP 2

Oct 6 *(Serravalle)*: **San Marino 0, Norway 3** (Strandli 26, Swift 56, Petter 76). **Oct 13** *(Utrecht)*: **Holland 1** (Van Gastel 77), **Poland 3** (Hajto 25, Wojciechowski 28, Dabrowski 49); *(Peterborough)*: **England 0, Norway 2** (Strandli 2, Haland 67). **Oct 27** *(Ankara)*: **Turkey 4** (Hasan 7, Bulent 16, 21, Mustafa 44), **San Marino 0. Nov 17** *(Brisbane Road, London)*: **England 0, Turkey 1** (Aydin 76). **Dec 15** *(Istanbul)*: **Turkey 1** (Mujdat 21), **Holland 1** (Davids 14). **Feb 16** *(Luton)*: **England 6** (Hall 22, Flitcroft 24, Anderton 36, Sheron 44, Redknapp 70, McManaman 87), **San Marino 0. Feb 23: Holland 0, Turkey 1. Mar 9** *(Serravalle)*: **San Marino 0, Turkey 2** (Hakan 43, Arif 58). **Mar 23** *(Volendam)*: **Holland 3** (Scheepers 12, 68, Mutsaers 89), **San Marino 0. Mar 30** *(Izmir)*: **Turkey 0, England 0.**

GROUP 3

Oct 13 *(Copenhagen/Osterbro)*: **Denmark 3** (Kristensen 14, Moller 35, 52), **Rep Ireland 2** (Dempsey 5, McGrath 84). **Nov 17** *(Tirana)*: **Albania 0, Germany 1** (Unger 21); *(Jerez)*: **Spain 2** (Kiko 24, Acosta 27), **Rep. Ireland 1** (McCarthy 65). **Dec 15** *(Osnabruck)*: **Germany 1** (Herrlich 37), **Spain 2** (Christiansen 48 o.g., Oscar 65). **Dec 23** *(Osnabruck)*: **Germany 4** (Munch 48, Herrlich 75, 89, Haber 88), **Albania 1** (Pali 56). **Mar 9** *(Dublin)*: **Rep Ireland 0, Germany 1** (Wuck 73). **Mar 23** *(Baunatal)*: **Germany 8** (Lottner 2, Herrlich 17, 69, Wuck 36, Green og 61, Munch 64, Haber 73, Worns 74), **Rep Ireland 0. Mar 30** *(Copenhagen)*: **Denmark 0, Spain 1** (Guerreiro 53).

GROUP 4

Oct 13 *(Seraing)*: **Belgium 1** (Crasson 89), **Romania 0;** *(Larnaca/ Papadopulos)*: **Cyprus 2** (Marios 64, Kinakos 84), **Wales 4** (Bowen 34, Blake 39, 50, 75). **Nov 13** *(Bucharest)*: **Romania 1** (Moldovan 44), **Czechoslovakia 0. Nov 17** *(Kortrijk)*: **Belgium 3** (Crasson 25 pen, Goossens 27, Walem 82), **Wales 1** (Lee Jones 21). **Nov 28** *(Paralimni)*: **Cyprus 0, Romania 2** (Safta 31, Stinga 74). **Mar 23** *(Paralimni)*: **Cyprus 0, Czechoslovakia 2** (Bejbl 16, Gunda 54). **Mar 30** *(Cardiff)*: **Wales 0, Belgium 0.**

GROUP 5

Oct 7 *(Reykjavik)*: **Iceland 1** (T Gudjonsson 81pen), **Greece 3** (Mahlas 4, Kostic 73, 88). **Oct 13** *(Moscow)*: **Russia 5, Iceland 0. Oct 27** *(Moscow)*: **Russia 2** (Sherbakov, Beshchastnikh), **Luxembourg 1** (Cardoni). **Nov 10** *(Edhessa)*: **Greece 2, Hungary 1. Nov 11** *(Bucharest)*: **Romania 1** (Moldovan 44), **Czechoslovakia 0. Nov 17** *(Kortrijk)*: **Belgium 3** (Crasson 25 pen, Goossens 27, Walem 82), **Wales 1** (Lee Jones 21). **Feb 17** *(Athens)*: **Greece 6** (Gonias 7, 52, Giorgatos 9, 68, Alexoudis 80, Poursanides 89), **Luxembourg 0. Mar 30** *(Szekesfehervar)*: **Hungary 1** (Horvath 57), **Greece 2** (Gonias 44, Georgatos 66).

GROUP 6

Oct 6 *(Halmstad)*: **Sweden 6** (H Larsson 29, 40, 54, A Bild 65, 86, Jeglertz 89), **Bulgaria 0. Oct 14** *(Beauvais)*: **France 6** (Ouedec 8pen, Pedros 12, Nouma 33, Dugarry 41, 55, Vairelles 77), **Austria 1** (Thetis og 44). **Oct 27** *(Vienna)*: **Austria 1** (Pirk 15), **Israel 5** (Keisy 20, Revivo 25 pen, 27, Mizrahi 75, Torjman 76). **Nov 10** *(Herzliya)*: **Israel 1, Sweden 1. Dec 1: Israel 1, Bulgaria 2. Feb 16** *(Herzliya)*: **Israel 1** (A Mizrahi 74pen), **France 2** (Dugarry 12, 85). **Mar 26** *(Modling)*: **Austria 0, France 1** (Ouedec 62).

AFRICA

1994 AFRICAN NATIONS' CUP

Hosts: Tunisia.
Holders: Ivory Coast.
Both qualify automatically.

PRELIMINARY ROUND

14.06.92 Lesotho v Botswana 0-0
14.06.92 Guinea Bissau v Cape Verde ... 3-1
28.06.92 Botswana v Lesotho 0-4
Lesotho won 4-0 on agg
28.06.92 Cape Verde v Guinea Bissau ... 0-1
Guinea Bissau won 4-1 on agg

GROUP 1
(Winners qualify)

16.08.92 Gabon v Cameroon 0-0
16.08.92 Benin v Niger 1-2
30.08.92 Cameroon v Benin 2-0
30.08.92 Niger v Gabon 1-3
03.04.93 Niger v Benin 2-2
11.04.93 Gabon v Benin
11.04.93 Niger v Cameroon
25.04.93 Cameroon v Gabon
11.07.93 Benin v Cameroon
11.07.93 Gabon v Niger
25.07.93 Benin v Gabon
25.07.93 Cameroon v Niger

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gabon	2	1	1	0	3	1	3
Cameroon	2	1	1	0	2	0	3
Niger	3	1	1	1	5	6	3
Benin	3	0	1	2	3	6	1

GROUP 2
(Winners qualify)

15.08.92 Uganda v Ethiopia 3-1
16.08.92 Sudan v Nigeria 0-0
29.08.92 Nigeria v Uganda 2-0
29.08.92 Ethiopia v Sudan 3-0
10.04.93 Ethiopia v Nigeria
11.04.93 Sudan v Uganda
24.04.93 Ethiopia v Uganda
24.04.93 Nigeria v Sudan
10.07.93 Uganda v Nigeria
11.07.93 Sudan v Ethiopia
24.07.93 Uganda v Sudan
24.07.93 Nigeria v Ethiopia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nigeria	2	1	1	0	2	0	3
Ethiopia	2	1	0	1	4	3	2
Uganda	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Sudan	2	0	1	1	0	3	1

GROUP 3
(Top two qualify)

16.08.92 Algeria v Guniea Bissau 3-1
16.08.92 Senegal v Togo 2-0
29.08.92 Sierra Leone v Algeria 1-0
30.08.92 Senegal v Guinea Bissau 3-0
03.10.92 Togo v Algeria 0-0
04.10.92 Guinea Bissau v Sierra Leone . 0-3
08.11.92 Sierra Leone v Senegal 2-0
08.11.92 Togo v Guinea Bissau 0-0
09.01.93 Sierra Leone v Togo 0-0
10.01.93 Senegal v Algeria 1-2
24.01.93 Togo v Senegal 1-1
24.01.93 Guinea Bissau v Algeria 1-4
11.04.93 Algeria v Sierra Leone
11.04.93 Guinea Bissau v Senegal
24.04.93 Sierra Leone v Guinea Bissau
25.04.93 Algeria v Togo
11.07.93 Senegal v Sierra Leone
11.07.93 Guinea Bissau v Togo
24.07.93 Togo v Sierra Leone
25.07.93 Algeria v Senegal

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sierra Leone	4	3	1	0	6	0	7
Algeria	5	3	1	1	9	4	7
Senegal	5	2	1	2	7	5	5
Togo	5	0	4	1	1	3	4
Guinea Bissau	5	0	1	4	2	13	1

GROUP 4
(Winners qualify)

16.08.92 Zaire v Mozambique 2-0
16.08.92 Lesotho v Kenya 2-2
29.08.92 Kenya v Zaire 1-3
30.08.92 Mozambique v Lesotho 3-0
11.04.93 Lesotho v Zaire
11.04.93 Mozambique v Kenya
24.04.93 Kenya v Lesotho
25.04.93 Mozambique v Zaire
11.07.93 Zaire v Kenya
11.07.93 Lesotho v Mozambique
24.07.93 Kenya v Mozambique
25.07.93 Zaire v Lesotho

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zaire	2	2	0	0	5	1	4
Mozambique	2	1	0	1	3	2	2
Kenya	2	0	1	1	3	5	1
Lesotho	2	0	1	1	2	5	1

GROUP 5
(Winners qualify)

16.08.92 Zambia v Mauritius 2-1
16.08.92 Zimbabwe v South Africa 4-1
30.08.92 Mauritius v Zimbabwe 0-1
30.08.92 South Africa v Zambia 0-1
10.04.93 South Africa v Mauritius
11.04.93 Zambia v Zimbabwe
24.04.93 South Africa v Zimbabwe
25.04.93 Mauritius v Zambia
11.07.93 Zimbabwe v Mauritius
11.07.93 Zambia v South Africa
25.07.93 Zimbabwe v Zambia
25.07.93 Mauritius v South Africa

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zimbabwe	2	2	0	0	5	1	4
Zambia	2	2	0	0	3	1	4
Mauritius	2	0	0	2	1	3	0
South Africa	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

GROUP 6
(Winners qualify)

16.08.92 Burundi v Congo 1-0
16.08.92 Chad v Guinea 0-3
30.08.92 Congo v Chad 2-0
30.08.92 Guinea v Burundi 2-2
11.04.93 Burundi v Chad
11.04.93 Guinea v Congo
25.04.93 Guinea v Chad
25.04.93 Congo v Burundi
11.07.93 Burundi v Guinea
11.07.93 Chad v Congo
25.07.93 Chad v Burundi
25.07.93 Congo v Guinea

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Guinea	2	1	1	0	5	2	3
Burundi	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Congo	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Chad	2	0	0	2	0	5	0

GROUP 7
(Winners qualify)

15.08.92 Tanzania v Ghana 2-2
15.08.92 Burkina Faso v Liberia 1-1
29.08.92 Liberia v Tanzania 1-1
30.08.92 Ghana v Burkina Faso 3-0
11.04.93 Burkina Faso v Tanzania
11.04.93 Ghana v Liberia
25.04.93 Ghana v Tanzania
25.04.93 Liberia v Burkina Faso
10.07.93 Tanzania v Liberia
11.07.93 Burkina Faso v Ghana
24.07.93 Tanzania v Burkina Faso
25.07.93 Liberia v Ghana

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ghana	2	1	1	0	5	2	3
Tanzania	2	0	2	0	3	3	2
Liberia	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Burkina Faso	2	0	1	1	1	4	1

GROUP 8
(Top two qualify)

15.08.92 Malawi v Egypt 1-0
29.08.92 Malawi v Mali 1-1
04.10.92 Mali v Morocco 2-1
08.11.92 Morocco v Egypt 0-0
09.04.93 Egypt v Mali
11.04.93 Morocco v Malawi
23.04.93 Egypt v Malawi
25.04.93 Morocco v Mali
09.07.93 Egypt v Morocco
11.07.93 Mali v Malawi
24.07.93 Malawi v Morocco
25.07.93 Mali v Egypt

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mali	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Malawi	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Morocco	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Egypt	2	0	1	1	0	1	1

★ *Mauritania and Libya withdrew.*

SOUTH AMERICA

FULL INTERNATIONALS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

ARTEMIO FRANCHI TROPHY
(between European and South American champs)

In Mar del Plata, Argentina.
ARGENTINA 1 (Caniggia pen)
DENMARK 1 (Craviotto o.g)
Aet, Argentina won 5-4 on pens.
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Sandor Puhl (Hun).
Argentina: Goycochea, Craviotto (Saldana), Borelli, Vazquez, Altamirano, Simeone, Mancuso, Rodriguez (Franco), Maradona Caniggia, Batistuta.
Denmark: Schmeichel, L. Olsen, Roieper, Kjeldbjerg, Piechnik, (S. Nielsen), Molby, Goldbaek, Vilfort, H. Larsen (M. Larsen), Laudrup, Elstrup.

● This was Argentina's 23rd full international without defeat, but they made a poor start when Craviotto put a centre through his own goal after 12 minutes. From then on it was an uphill fight against a well organised and more technical Danish team. Argentina pressed and a Danish defender cleared off the goal line before an excellent move, started by Argentina's best man, Simeone, finished in Caniggia's equaliser after 30 minutes. Laudrup was the best player on the field while Maradona again slowed up the Argentine midfield, though he was excellent during extra time when he went close to scoring the winner several times while Argentina were on top. In the end it was left to Argentina's 1990 World Cup hero, goalkeeper Sergio Goycochea, again as he made two saves in the penalty shoot-out while Schmeichel saved one shot.

In San Cristobal, Venezuela.
VENEZUELA 0
COLOMBIA 0
Ref: Elias Jacombe (Ecu).
Venezuela: Gomez, Garcia (Filoza), Tortolero, Gonzalez, Martinez, Hernandez, Matias, Chaco (J. Garcia), Echenausi, Rodriguez (Diaz), Dolguetta (Guerra).
Colombia: Higuita, Herrera, Cassiani, Mendoza, Osorio, Serna (Gaviria), Alvarez, Valderrama (Aristizabal), Rincon, Trelles, Valencia (Pacheco).
● Venezuela surpised by dominating more and creating more goal chances against a slow Colombian team.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

PAZ DEL CHACO CUP — 1st leg

In Asuncion, Paraguay.
PARAGUAY 1 (Franco)
BOLIVIA 0.
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 4,000. **Ref:** Julio Matto (Uru).
Paraguay: Guerrero (Battaglia), Duarte (Meza), Ayala, Ruiz Viera, Suarez, Nacimiento (Villaymayor), Gamarra, Riveros, Ferreira (Garay), Cano, Franco.
Bolivia: Rojas, Sorulos (Salguero), Pena, Rivero, Francisquiene, Cristaldo, Takeo (Pinedo), Melgar, Villarroel (Rios), Castillo, Moreno (Molina).
● Paraguay missed their leading players on duty in Libertadores Cup action with leading clubs Olimpia and Cerro Porteno while Bolivia also were not at full strength in this poor game in which the low gate did not even cover expenses. Paraguay's victory came with a last-minute goal.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

In San Salvador, El Salvador.
EL SALVADOR 2 (Diaz Arce 2)
BOLIVIA 2 (Villarroel, Castillo)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 8,000.
El Salvador: Rivera, Osorio, Trigueros (Orellana), Carcamo, Abrego, Rivera, Castro, Palacios (Ulloa), Melendez, Iraheta (Vasquez), Diaz Arce.
Bolivia: Rojas, Pena, Rivera, Soroco, De Gutierrez, Cristaldo Ruiz, Villarroel (Rios), Melgar, Castillo, Takeo (Pineda), Molina (Gareca).
● Bolivia were on top in the first half with good midfield work from Melgar and Takeo, but El Salvador gave a much improved display from that which resulted in their elimination from the Central American Championship.

UNCAF *(Union Centroamericana de Futbol)* CHAMPIONSHIP — final round

in Tegucigalpa, Honduras

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

COSTA RICA 1 (Gomez)
EL SALVADOR 0
HT: 0-0.

HONDURAS 2 (Castro pen.,Suazo)
PANAMA 0
HT: 1-0.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

EL SALVADOR 1 (Diaz Arce)
PANAMA 1 (Ortega pen.)
HT: 0-0

HONDURAS 2 (Suazo, Calix)
COSTA RICA 0
HT: 0-0.
Honduras: W. Cruz, Martinez, A. Cruz, Castro, Yearwood, Fernandez (Anariva), Calix (Roches), Pineda, Funes, Suazo, Flores.
Costa Rica: Lonis, Gomez (Fonseca), Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Barquero, Peinado, Gutrie, Paniagua, Gomez, Arguedas, Velazquez.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

COSTA RICA 2 (Gutrie, Fonseca)
PANAMA 0
HT:0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Bryan Hall (US).
Costa Rica: Lonis, Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Peinado, Barquero, Gutrie, Rowe, Paniagua, Arguedas, Fonseca, Gomez. *(Also played:* Park, Mayers).
Panama: James, Clark, Poyatos, Lozada, Bolivar, Ortega, Delgado, Julio, Medieta, Piggot, Diaz. (*Also played:* Medina, Castillo).
● Costa Rica dominated during the first half when they scored both their goals, while Panama dominated in the second half of a rough game in which two players from each side were sent off — Gonzalez and Rowe of Costa Rica and Mendieta and Poyatos of Panama.

HONDURAS 3 (Suazo 3)
EL SALVADOR 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Arturo Bricio (Mex).
Att: 10,000.
Honduras: W. Cruz, Martinez, Yearwood, Castro, Fernandez, A. Cruz, Calix, Funez, Pineda, Suazo, Flores. *(Also played:* Arzu & goalkeeper Rivera).
El Salvador: Garcia, Osorio, Orellana, Carcamo, Abrego, Mayen, Castro, Rivera, Palacios, Diaz, Iraheta. (*Also played:* Melendez).
● Honduras overran El Salvador with Suazo scoring all three goals, the first two individual efforts in which he beat and out-sped defenders while the third — 11 minutes from the end — left the weakened El Salvador team level with Panama at the bottom which eventually caused their elimination from the CONCACAF nations championship final on the flip of a coin.

Final standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Honduras	3	3	0	0	7	0	6
Costa Rica	3	2	0	1	3	2	4
Panama	3	0	1	2	1	5	1
El Salvador	3	0	1	2	1	5	1

Top three qualify for CONCACAF nations championship — El Salvador eliminated by flip of coin.

LIBERTADORES CUP
First round
Group 1

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

In Lima, Peru.
SPORTING CRISTAL (Peru) 6
(Maestri 3, Dos Santos pen, Rivera 2)
MINERVEN (Ven) 2 (Matuszyczk, Camacho)
HT: 4-0. **Att:** 7,314. **Ref:** Manuel Serapiao (Bra).
Sporting Cristal: Miranda, Soto, Arteaga, Duffo, Vidales, Garay, Lobaton (Baldessari), Palacios, Marquinho (Suarez), Rivera, Maestri.
Minerven: Carillo, Pacheco, Ortiz, Camacaro (Marquez), Morales, Silva, Gruesco, Erramuspe, Caminitti (Balcucho), Matuszyczk, Camacho.
● Sporting Cristal, with better players, were well on top of the weak Venezuelan team, but the Peruvians did not play well and showed weaknesses at the back.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

In Lima, Peru.
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) 2
(Baroni 2)
MINERVEN (Ven) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Claudio Cerdeira (Bra).
Universitario: Zubzuck, Charun, Asteggiano, Reynoso, Bravo, Martinez, Bazalar, Nunes, Torrealva (Tempone), Gonzales, Baroni (Besada).
Minerven: Carrillo, Pacheco, Nieves, Ortiz (Marquez), Morales, Grueso, Camacaro, Erramuspe, Balcuckho (Rovalega), Camacho, Matuszyczk.
● Universitario, without injured key midfield players Carranza and Silva, had to fight hard to beat weak rivals, but they had an unstoppable striker in Baroni who scored both their goals in spite of being closely marked. Minerven played defensively and were overrun in the first half, but fought back to equalise in the second.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

In Caracas, Venezuela.
CARACAS FC (Ven) 1 (Mouro)
MINERVEN (Ven) 1 (Jiminez o.g.)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Alvaro Arboleda (Ven).
Caracas FC: Baena, Paez Pumar, Jimenez, Maldonado, Borges, Cavallo, Bolivar, Arreaza (Lopez), Letelier, Mouro, Vogler.
Minerven: Carillo, Pacheco, Ortiz, Mieres, Morales, Camacaro, Grueso, Erramuspe, Blacucho, Camacho, Matuszyczk (Marquez).

● Minerven attacked from the start, needing points badly to stay alive, against a disorganised Caracas, but the latter improved after equalising shortly before half-time. Minerven played with a man less for two-thirds of the game — Balbucho being sent off after 11 minutes but Maldonado (Caracas) went off after 72 minutes to square it. The second half was even with both teams apparently satisfied with a draw.

In Lima, Peru
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) 2
SPORTING CRISTAL (Peru) 2
HT: 2-2. **Att:** 24,000. **Ref:** Luis Seminario (Peru).
Universitario: Zubzuck, Charun, Asteggiano, Reynoso, Bravo, Carranza, Martinez, Balazar, Torrealva, Baroni, Gonzalez.
Sp. Cristal: Miranda, Arteaga, Duffo, Soto, Lobaton, Vidales, Garay, Palacios, Rivera, Maestri, Dos Santos.
● Universitario, still feeling the absence of a couple of injured key players, were dominated by Sporting in a rough game.

Group 2

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

In Calama, Chile.
COBRELOA (Chi) 1 (Cornejo)
UNIV. CATOLICA (Chi) 1 (Barrera)
Ht: 1-0. **Att:** 18,000. **Ref:** Enrique Martin (Chi).
Cobreloa: Canales, Gonzalez, Jaque, Puebla, Miranda, Rodriguez (Perez), Cornejo, Covarrubias, Álvarez, Figueroa (Vera), P. Gonzalez.
Univ. Catolica: Wirth, Romero, Lizama, Contreras, Gomez, Parraguez, Rodriguez Gomez (Lopez), Lunari (Tupper), Reinoso, Cardozo, Barrera.
● Cobreloa dominated the first half without creating dangerous chances against a careful Universidad not wanting to tire in the altitutde . . . which they did not as they went more for attack after the interval. A fair result.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

In La Paz, Bolivia.
BOLIVAR (Bol) 3 (Soria, Etcheverry, Borja)
SAN JOSE (Bol) 1 (Pena)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 22,000. **Ref:** Armando Aleaga (Bol).
Bolivar: Trucco, Montano (Jiguchi), Sandy, Ferrufino, Ibvanez, Boria, Soria, Hernandez (Castillo), Etcheverry, Baldivieso, Hirano.
San Jose: Luduena, Sozzani, Quintero, Perez, Cossio, E. Villegas, Aramayo, Leoja, Parrado (Antelo), Pena, Hicks (O. Villegas).

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

In La Paz, Bolivia.
BOLIVAR (Bol) 3 (Baldivieso 2, Hirano)
UNIV. CATOLICA (Chi) 1 (Reinoso)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Milton Villavicencio (Ecu).
Bolivar: Trucco, Montano, Sandy, Ferrufino, Rimba (Ibanez), Borja, Soria, Hernandez (Castillo), Etcheverry, Baldivieso, Hirano.
Univ. Catolica: Wirth, Romero, Vasquez, Contreras, J. Gomez, Lepe, Reinoso, R. Gomez (Tupper), Cardozo, Barrera, Parraguez (Almada).
● Bolivar kept a nine-year unbeaten record at home in this competition intact by building up a 3-0 lead within a minute of the restart.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

In Oruro, Bolivia.
SAN JOSE (Bol) 2 (Quinteros, Pena)
UNIV. CATOLICA (Chi) 4 (Reinoso, Barrera, Cardozo, Contreras)
Ht: 3-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Marco E. Aguas (Ecu).
San Jose: Luduena, Cossio, Sozzani, Quinteros, Perez, Aramayo, Rioja, E. Villegas (O. Villegas), Valencia, Pena, Antelo.
Univ. Catolica: Wirth, Romero, Vasquez, Contreras, Gomez, Parraquez, Lepe, Reinoso, Cardozo (Tupper), Barrera (Lunari), Almada.
● Despite the advantage of playing in their home stadium, which is about 4,000 metres above sea level, San Jose were outplayed by superior opposition which left them pointless and the most likely candidates for elimination from this group in the first round.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

In La Paz, Bolivia.
BOLIVAR (Bol) 3 (Etcheverry pen., Borja, Baldivieso)
COBRELOA (Chi) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Alberto Tejada (Peru). **Att:** 40,000.
Bolivar: Trucco, Montano, Ferrufino, Sandy, Rimba,Borja, Soria, Hernandez (Blanco), Etcheverry, Baldivieso, Hirano (Castillo).
Cobreloa: Canales, Cornejo, Barco, Jaque, Miranda, Retamar (Alvarez), Puebla, H. Gonzales, Covarrubias (P. Gonzales), Figueroa, Perez.
● After an even first half, Cobreloa slowed down after the interval and Bolivar got on top, but it was not a question of La Paz's altitude as Cobreloa come from high-lying Calama.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

In Oruro, Bolivia.
SAN JOSE (Bol) 2 (Villegas, Aramayo)
COBRELOA (Chi) 3 (Gonzalez, Cornejo)
● Cornejo scored Cobreloa's winner three minutes from the end and the result virtually eliminated San Jose.

Group 3

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

In Guayaquil, Ecuador.
BARCELONA (Ecu) 2 (Rosero, Insua)
BELLA VISTA (Uru) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Alvaro Arboleda (Ven)
Barcelona: Morales (Ceballos), Bravo, Montanero, Tenorio, Proanao (Carabini), Gomez, Rosero, Munoz, Insua, Avilez, Gilson.
Bella Vista: Bercovich, Marquez (Rodriguez), De Leon, Michelini, Munoz, Tito, Lancieri, Carvallo, Acosta, Lujambio, Carrero.
● Barcelona were better than their rivals who finished the match with 10 men, Michelini being sent off.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

In Quito, Ecuador.
NACIONAL (Ecu) 5 (Cherrez 2, Chala, Acosta, Carcelen)
BELLA VISTA (Uru) 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Nelson Rodriguez (Ven).
Nacional: Reinoso, Carcelen, Ballesteros, Quinonez, Guerrero, (Arroylo), Castalleda, Vega, Constante, Mosquera, Chala, Cherrez.
Bella Vista: Pecovich, Rosas, De Leon, Carballo, Nunez (Acevedo), Lancieri, Tito, Marquez, Acosta (Lujambio), Ferraro, Lopez Baez.
● Nacional were on top all the way with more speed and penetration than Bella Vista who seemed to suffer from the altitude.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

In Guayquil, Ecuador.
BARCELONA (Ecu) 1 (Munoz)
NACIONAL (Uru) 1 (Dely Valdez)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Anibal Hay (Arg).
Barcelona: Morales, Bravo, Noriega, Tenorio, Proano (Macias), Gomez, Rosero, Munoz, Insua Aviles (Gavica), Gilson.
Nacional: Sere, Mendez, Canals, Revelez, Socca, Gutierrez, Pena (Lemus), Garcia, Suarez, Vidal, Dely Valdez.
● Goalkeepers Morales and Sere were the heroes of this match as both teams had plenty of goal chances with forwards generally on top of the defenders.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

In Quito, Ecuador.
NACIONAL (Ecu) 2 (Garay, Chala)
NACIONAL (Uru) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Juan C. Loustau (Arg).
Nacional (Ecu): Reinoso, Carcelen, Ballesteros, Quinonez, Arroyo, Vega (Valencia), Constante (Garay), Castaneda, Mosquera, Chala, Cherrez.
Nacional (Uru): Sere, Mendez, Canals, Revelez, Socca (Nunez), Gutierrez, Suarez, Garcia (Oliveira), Lemus, Vidal, Dely Valdez.
● The Uruguayans had a few more chances in the first half, but the Ecuadorians were on top after the interval and deserved their victory.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

In Guayaquil, Ecuador.
BARCELONA (Ecu) 4 (Aviles 3, Tenorio)
NACIONAL (Ecu) 0
HT: 3-0. **Ref:** Jorge Orellana (Ecu).
Barcelona: Morales, Bravo, Montanero (Noriega), Tenorio, Macias, Gomez, Rosero, Munoz, Insua (Gavica), Gilson, Aviles.
Nacional: Reinoso, Carcelen (Ruiz), Valencia, Quinonez, Arroyo, Mosquera, Vega, Garay, Constante (Vernaza) Chala, Cherrez.
● Barcelona had no problems against an error-prone Nacional defence and the latter team finished with 10 men, Cherrez being sent off.

In Montevideo, Uruguay.
BELLA VISTA (Uru) 0
NACIONAL (Uru) 1 (Dely Valdez)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Saul Feldman (Uru).
Bella Vista: Percovich, Rosa, De Leon, Michelini, Acevedo, Acosta, Carballo, Marquez, Rodriguez, Ferraro, Lopez Baez (Lujambio).
Nacional: Sere, Mendez, Canals, Revelez, Socca, Suarez (Miranda), Gutierrez, Lemos, Nunez, Dely Valdez, Garcia (Pena).
● Nacional scored within two minutes and were on top in the first half. After the interval it was even.

Group 4

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
FLAMENGO (Bra) 1 (Nilson)
AMERICA (Col) 3 (Da Silva, Ferreira, Rincon)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 22,000. **Ref:** Juan Bava (Arg).
Flamengo: Gilmar, Fabinho, Junior Bahiano, Gotardo, Pia, Junior, Marquinhos, Charles, Nelio (Marcelinho), Gaucho (Julio Cesar), Nilson.
America: Comizzo, Ampudia, Cassiani, Jimenez (Bermudez), Perez, Alvarez, Rincon, Lozano, Ferreira, Da Silva (Escobar), De Avila.
● America were well on top in the second half, playing the kind of skilful soccer usually associated with the Brazilians to win deservedly.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

In Porto Alegre, Brazil.
INTERNACIONAL (Bra) 1 (Daniel)
AMERICA (Col) 1 (Ferreira)
HT:1-1. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Juan C. Crespi (Arg).
Internacional: Fernandez, Celio Pinto, Celio Silva, Pinga, Daniel, Jandir, Elson, Silas, Marquinhos, Mauricio (Rudinei), Gerson (Nando).
America: Comizzo, Perez, Jimenez, Grazziani, Ampudia, Alvarez, Lozano, Rincon, Ferreira (Maturana), De Avila (Da Silva), Escobar.
● America dominated most of the action with Internacional only taking over near the end.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
FLAMENGO (Bra) 3 (Marquinhos, Nunez, Marcelinho)
INTERNACIONAL (Bra) 1 (Jairo Lenzo)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Oscar Godoi (Bra).
Flamengo: Gilmar, Charles, Junior Bahiano, Gotardo, Pia, Uidemar, Marquinhos, Junior, Paulo Nunes, Nilson, Nelio.
Internacional: Fernandez, Celio Pinto, Celio Silva, Pinga, Daniel, Jandir, Silas, Marquinhos, Elson, Mauricio, Gerson.
● Flamengo dominated with good midfield command in which Junior was prominetn and they would have won by a bigger score but for Fernandez's good goalkeeping.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

In Medellin, Colombia.
NACIONAL (Col) 3 (Garcia, Higuita pen., Aristizabal)
AMERICA (Col) 2 (De Avila, Rincon)
HT: 0-1.
Nacional: Higuita, Herrera, Caicedo, Marulanda, Santa, Gaviria, Gomez (A. Serna), A. Garcia, M. Serna, Trellez (Zuniga), Aristizabal.
America: Comizzo, Perez, Bermudez, Cassiani, Ampudia, Alvarez, Lozano, Rincon, Escobar (Da Silva), Ferreira, De Avila.

Group 5

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

In Asuncion, Paraguay.
**CERR

BRIAN GLANVILLE'S LAST WORD

Active resistance to passive offside

THE problem of "passive offside" was thrown in relief by Paul Gascoine's goal for Lazio against Milan.

When the ball reached him from the by-line, all he had to do was stick out his left foot, and that was that. The ball had been pulled back, so he clearly, or at least logically, could not be offside.

Milan insisted, however, with a good deal of televisual evidence to back them, that he had been in an offside position earlier in the movement. Fabio Capello, the Milan manager, was especially loud in his demand that there should be no such thing as passive offside.

In this, he would have had strong backing from the late Bill Shankly who, when manager of Liverpool, was wont to assert that if a player wasn't "interfering with play or seeking to gain an advantage," then he should be.

The whole situation has been exacerbated by research from a scientific institute in Valencia, which insists that a linesman takes a fifth of a second to direct his gaze from where the ball was last played — the crucial factor in assessing an offside — to the point where an attacker receives it.

This in effect, says the Institute of Biomechanics, renders it impossible for the linesman to give a correct decision.

But there's more to it, still.

According to the Institute, even the present TV cameras cannot tell us what we want to know. They, it appears, function at a rate of 24 images a second. But to be wholly precise and relevant, they allegedly would be obliged to function at no fewer than 500 images per second.

The question of whether or not someone is interfering with play always has been deeply vexed. Look at one or two examples, not least that in the Champions' Cup Final of 1975 in Paris.

When Peter Lorimer crashed the ball into the Bayern Munich goal, Billy Bremner was racing back from an offside position, towards his own goal.

The deplorable referee, Kitabdjian, who had denied Leeds a perfectly clear penalty when Franz Beckenbauer tripped Allan Clarke, rules out the goal for offside. This was the last straw for the Leeds fans, who thereupon used their cheap plastic seats as useful weapons of assault against the track-suited gendarmes.

Leeds, perhaps above all teams, were well aware of how the offside law could work against them.

A more liberal interpretation of it was seen when they played a vital home League game. West Bromwich broke away with a forward clearly offside. But the man in possession went on, paying him no heed, and eventually beating Gary Sprake. The goal stood. Outraged Leeds fans proceeded to invade the pitch.

The trouble with scrapping the "passive" offside law is that you can never be quite sure where it is going to take you. Some seasons ago there was a rash of dotty decisions by English referees when a player who had pulled the ball back from the line, to a colleague who scored, was given . . . offside!

If such a policy had been followed at the Olympic Stadium, it wouldn't have been Gazza who was given offside, but the man who had passed him the ball! Such an interpretation of the rule would prevent the most devastating and classical winger's move in the book; the ability to weave outside the full-back, take the ball to the line, then pull it back for a colleague to score.

For a start, you could forget the two memorable goals made by Garrincha for Vava in the 1958 World Cup Final. With jaguar swerves and pace, Garrincha left the left flank of the Swedish defence in his wake, then roared on, to pull the ball back for Vava.

Soccer's laws should not be lightly mocked, or messed about with.

Are you listening, meddlesome Sepp Blatter?

There's often method in their apparent madness. Take out these highly-relevant clauses, abolish the notion of "passive" offside, and you rule out the most dangerous and effective attacking move in the book. Heaven knows wingers have had enough to put up with, over the years.

Better at playing

BOBBY MOORE'S failure as a manager may perhaps be seen as the obverse of his powers as a player.

To say, as some have, that he was just too nice ever to tell a young player he wasn't good enough, begged the question. Moore was essentially so private a person that he was never going to find it easy to communicate as a manager. Hence, I am sure, his unhappy experiences at Oxford City and at Southend United.

He wasn't by any means alone of those 1966 World Cup winners in his disappointment as a manager. Geoff Hurst and Martin Peters, his West Ham team-mates, gave up after unproductive spells — Hurst being one of the many who have failed, over the years, to crack it at Chelsea.

Gordon Banks coached for a while, but that didn't last. Bobby Charlton really was too nice ever to convince as manager material. But his tougher brother, Jackie, took charge at Sheffield Wednesday, Newcastle and Middlesbrough, before settling into his ideal role as the highly-successful manager of the Republic of Ireland, where he has performed a series of small miracles.

Nobby Stiles found being front man hard, but has survived as a coach. Alan Ball lost his job at Portsmouth and has settled for managing little Exeter City.

No, Moore was not alone in his failure to flourish as a manager. But as a player, he was in several ways exemplary.

It's a goal . . . Lorimer (leaping) celebrates during the 1975 Champions' Cup Final (above).

Oh no it's not . . . referee Kitabdjian disallows Lorimer's effort for offside, despite Yorath's protests (right).

Carry on, Europe

SOME years ago, when football correspondent of *The Daily Express*, David Miller staged a grandiose lunch, and stuck his plans on a board, to present his ideas for a European League.

They were promptly shot down by the guest of honour, Hans "Bang-Bang" Bangerter, the man whose letter of absolution to Juventus when they tried to bend referee Lobo went with the speed of light.

Bang-Bang was sceptical, and then I was inclined to agree with him. I had been all for a Euro League but, ironic as it now seems, I'd been talked out of it by the then president of Milan, Franco Carraro.

Were Milan and their like to pull out of the Italian League, he said, it would simply collapse.

Which doubtless would be true today; when his controversial successor, Silvio Berlusconi, just cannot wait for a Euro League he can televise on his Channel 5.

I've changed my views, at least from the point of view of English football, because I don't think the Premier (alias Greed Is Good) League, as it stands, is worth preserving.

I hate and despise the way football is run in this country. There isn't a leader of any stature in sight. The Premier have whored to television — look at the way the three vital last games were earmarked for Sky satellite and therefore for a Sunday — and failed lamentably to cut their competition down to size.

In the meantime, they've dragged the FA — or the FA have dragged themselves — into their dubious organisation, so we no longer have a body capable of holding the ring.

No, I'll not oppose Lennart Johansson's ambitions.

A stink of failure in Australia

THE utter bankruptcy, the total, tactical squalor of FA coaching orthodoxy, could not have been more blatantly shown up than by the England youth team in Australia.

That they reached the semi-final of the tournament, to lose somewhat unluckily and controversially to Ghana, with all those 16-year-olds going on 35, is of marginal interest. It was the horrible, sterile, ugly style in which they played that mattered.

The manager, David Burnside, is a loyal disciple of Charlie (Brazil have got it wrong) Hughes, the ever surviving director of FA coaching.

Burnside fielded a team who, in theatrical parlance, stank the place out. A team who played the percentages to screaming point. Who didn't score a single goal from open play. Who reduced a bubbling, lively, incisive young forward, Nick Barmby, to a forlorn figure, chasing hopeless causes as the solitary forward up front, when his whole game is based on playing off a centre-forward.

Once upon a time, Burnside was an engaging figure, a brilliant young ball juggler, brought on at half-time in West Bromwich's European matches, to entertain the crowd. That Burnside, all these years later, should become the apostle of Junk Football, long-ball tactics, embattled negativity, is especially sad.

I don't blame the players in the England team. Several of them show high promise, and once they can get away from the strangling orthodoxy of FA coaching theory, they should flourish.

Burnside . . . a disciple of long-ball tactics.

The FIFA supervisor of England's qualifying group said he hadn't seen as unhappy and joyless a player as the usually exuberant Barmby. I wonder why.

NEXT MONTH IN . . .

WORLD SOCCER

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in Munich and Wembley

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GERD MULLER—

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